

Pastor's Pen

Water Washed and Spirit Led

Turning the page of a magazine article about global eating zones in which people live the longest, a tick emerged from the crease. It is true that in many cultures insects are a staple source of protein, however this was not an interactive magazine nor are ticks a welcome guest in our house. Needless to say it was quickly ushered out.

Given the steady rainfall I am not too surprised to see critters migrating indoors. I am looking out my office window at a steady rainfall aware that the flood wall being built along the Cumberland will not reach our backyard. The turtles and muskrat seem to be enjoying the swelling creek between the parsonage and the church, but that tick found higher, dryer ground.

Water is a constant piece of the human narrative and a primary thread in the Judeo-Christian faith narrative. From the waters of the womb to the waters of creation, from water that sustains life to water that gifts salvation, it is simultaneously a most precious resource and a most sublime symbol.

We have certainly been reminded of water's power through floods in Oklahoma and Texas, of water's necessity through droughts in India and California, of water's geo-political import through conflicting national interests over the damming of the Mekong River, and of water's signal meaning through the sacrament of baptism.

Indeed! We were an especially blessed part of the body of Christ this past Sunday as we shared in the baptism of Michelle Cason. Professing her faith and joining Crievewood United Methodist Church immersed us all in the high and holy joy of life in Christ. Not only do we believe that through baptism Michelle "was incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood" (UMH pg. 37), but that through the sacrament we, the congregation, renewed our vow to faithfully "participate in the ministries of the church". (UMH pg. 38)

Water offers another touchstone. There is much about the human experience that feels unfair, Jesus himself acknowledges in the Sermon on the Mount that the sun rises on the evil and the good, and rain falls on the righteous and the unrighteous (Matthew 5:45). Reflecting on our absolute need for water to survive and the lack of access to safe water for many in the world, keeps people of faith humbly seeking ways to connect resources and needs; food, shelter, health care, living wage, water.

If you have not already had a chance to welcome Michelle into the body of Christ and this local faith community, I know you will want to find an opportunity. Bishop Ken Carder was the first person I heard define Christians as water washed and Spirit led; together with Michelle we are one in Christ Jesus and singular in purpose. Nashville may erect flood walls to protect the urban core from another catastrophic event, but the world needs walls and structures dismantled that keep water from those who need it or threaten access to safe water sources.

Baptismal water soaks our lives in the cleansing, redeeming, life giving love of Christ Jesus, and unites us in the mission and ministry of hastening the full coming of God's Kingdom. That Kingdom looks like one person with water giving to another person without; that Kingdom feels like a cup of water to a thirsty soul.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

48th Tennessee Annual Conference

Bishop McAlilly will preside over the 2015 Tennessee Annual Conference which is scheduled June 7-10 at Brentwood UMC. The theme for the conference is entitled *Offering Christ to a Hurting World*. The speaker during Monday worship is Bishop Michael Watson; Bishop McAlilly will lead the daily Bible studies and other worship sessions.

Farmin' in the Hall

CHNA's farmers' market hosted by Crievevood UMC will return every Thursday this summer starting on June 11th. The event runs from 4:30-7:00 p.m. and will have delicious food, great music, and many friendly faces. Please support the local farmers by buying fresh fruits and vegetables for your family at the market each week.

Ice Cream Social



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS *and* NEIGHBORS

ice cream
SOCIAL
sunday
JUNE 14

5 PM
fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite homemade ice cream or favorite dessert to share!

prizes
• for •
Most Original Flavor
& Fan Favorite

Our youth and adults will have returned from their trip to Mountain T.O.P. and will share testimonies of their week in mission.

Crievevood UMC • 451 Hogan Rd. • Nashville, TN 37220

Missions

TP Sunday

Crievevood continues supporting Community Care Fellowship through TP Sundays. The next TP Sunday is June 7. Packages may be left in the narthex.

VBS Mission Focus—OPEN TABLE

Our VBS Mission is exciting. During this year's VBS craft time, we will be working on mission-focused 'crafts' to give away instead of crafts the children take home. One of our big endeavors will be our backpacks/hygiene kits, and we are asking for help from our Crievewood family.

Please purchase any of the items below, and bring to church. There will be a container marked "VBS Missions" where these items may be placed. We are accepting items up until the Sunday kickoff of VBS, July 19, so there is plenty of time to grab an item or two.

Thanks for your generosity in advance; these are the items we will need:

Project 1

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| -toothbrushes | -Band-Aids | -combs |
| -disposable razors | -snacks – individual packs of : | -travel-size : |
| -small packages of tissues | nuts | soap |
| -sunscreen sticks | cheese and crackers | Lotion |
| -small bottled waters | granola bars | shampoo |
| -packs of gum | cookies | deodorant |
| -cough drops | squeezable apple sauce | toothpaste |

Project 2

- gloves
- hand warmers

Project 3

- washcloths

Background Checks

We are in the process of getting our background checks up to date. According to our Safe Sanctuaries policy, any volunteer who works with children, youth or vulnerable adults must have a background check completed by the church within the last 5 years. This includes anyone who is volunteering with Project Transformation.

If you are a volunteer, you may pick up a paper application in the main office, or we can email you a link to fill out the application online. The cost of each background check is \$13.25. We appreciate donations towards the cost, but please don't let the cost keep you from volunteering. If you have any questions, please contact Peter, Steph or Leigh Ann. If you are unsure if or when you last had a background check, Steph can look up that information.

Thank you for volunteering and for helping to keep our children and youth safe.

Activities

Summer Meet and Eat

Meet and Eat is an opportunity to fellowship with Crievewood friends over the summer. Participants meet on Wednesdays at a local restaurant for dinner. The schedule for the upcoming the weeks is as follows:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| June 3 | Longhorn's at Target OHBV |
| June 10 | Applebee's at Nipper's Corner |
| June 17 | Toyama Japanese Steak House (meet at 5:00 p.m.) |
| June 24 | Las Palmas at Nipper's Corner |

Most of the time diners should meet at the restaurant around 4:30 p.m. and the group will gather together, enter, and be seated to eat by 5:00 p.m. Participants should try to arrange their own transportation. If you cannot find transportation and need a ride, please call Nancy Rosdeutscher by Tuesday noon before the Wednesday dinner.

JOY Club

The June JOY Club activity is a mystery lunch. Diners should meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. on **Thursday, June 25th** and then travel by car to the mystery destination. The only clue is that the restaurant is located 3 to 4 miles from the church.

JOY Club will eat at Miss Bobo's in July. Those from the church who would like to go must make their reservation in advance. The cost is \$24.15 per person. The check should be made out to Crievewood UMC and be given to Jean McCurdy no later than June 14.

Pictures

Many of the free 8x10 directory photos of congregation members have been sent to the church. If you have not received your picture, please check in the office.

Also we now have church announcements on the LCD screen in the narthex as well as on screen in Fellowship Hall where they are shown prior to the Gathering worship. The Crievewood congregation participates in many activities and projects. We would like to add more to what is shown in the narthex each day. If you have pictures of church activities on your phone, camera, tablet, or computer and are willing to share them, we would love to use them in our Power Point displays.

Children

Nursery Schedule:

	<u>1st Shift</u>	<u>2nd Shift</u>
6/07/15	Bill and Nina Tucker	Bill and Nina Tucker
6/14/15	Kim Boyce and Adele White	Kim Boyce and Glynnis Boyce

Vacation Bible School



VBS 2015 Sign-Up Link for Volunteers and Kids
July 19 (Kickoff)-July 23
5:45-8:00 p.m.

<https://2015.cokesburyvbs.com/2015crievewood/register/> .

Sign up TODAY!