

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

July 3, 2013

Pastor's Pen

Expect Greater Things

Last week I picked Patti up at the airport; I rarely use the cell phone lot and ten minute parking slot approach, preferring to go in the terminal and wait at the point where arriving passengers leave the secure area. I took my place near Starbucks by Concourse C, caught a bit of Anderson Cooper on the television monitor, and watched several reunions occur as many arriving found someone waiting. Exuberance and affection ran the gamut.

One stood out. The couple (man and woman) next to me opened their arms to receive two teenagers who seemed equally joyful. It was a splendid sight, no words until I heard the young girl say to the man "How was Germany?" "It was incredible", he replied, to which the woman added "I wish you had been with us."

Obviously, this verbal exchange seems fitting in an airport, and yet, in the moment the conversation took me by surprise. For one who had just come off a plane asked one who had come from the parking garage about being overseas. It struck me as backward, and certainly not what I expected.

We had a very good Tennessee Annual Conference session in mid-June. The sense of a new day was palpable and the tone of our gathering was noticeably upbeat; I appreciated the manner with which Bishop McAlilly led our meeting. It was particularly meaningful to open the session with a worship service that reminded us of our baptismal covenant and claimed our oneness in Christ Jesus. No doubt this created space for a grace filled three days of conferencing.

To be honest, while I assumed Annual Conference would be different since we have a new bishop, and even dared to be optimistic, it exceeded all expectations. The worship was renewing, the Bible study engaging, the God Stories inspiring; we kept pace with the agenda, stayed on point with reports, and listened well in discussions. The theme of our 2013 Annual Conference was **Expect Greater Things**, and I was only expecting better.

Toward the end of our session, and following affirming comments about the experience, the Bishop asked all present, "Do you think the 40 days of prayer leading up to Annual Conference made a difference?" Yes. From individual hearts to a corporate spirit, prayer transforms.

Stephanie Dodge and I are thrilled to be appointed to Crievewood for another year! This is a wonderful congregation and we consider ourselves blessed. I certainly hope that we at Crievewood are surprised from time to time by God's love and grace, believing Paul got it right when he told the Church in Ephesus that "by the power at work in us God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine" (3:20). However, that should in no way limit our expectations that God will do greater things with, for, and through us. On the contrary, it should compel us to prayerfully make space for God to do just that.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

Liturgist Volunteers

If you would be willing to serve as a liturgist in the late worship service, please let Peter know by calling the office (832-2897) or e-mailing pastor@crievewoodumc.org.

Farmin' In The Hall



Right here in Crieve Hall, efforts are underway to develop a Saturday morning farmer's market!

Starting on July 6th, and then every Saturday in July, together with the Crieve Hall Neighborhood Association we will host **Farmin' In The Hall** from 8:00 a.m. until 1 :00 p.m.

Local farmers will be selling honey, eggs, produce, and coffee.

Bring the kids. Bring the dogs. Come on out and get some fresh produce! If you know of anyone who would like to set up a booth, please send Kate Cortner an email at katecortner@att.net.

Summer Meet and Eat

Please join members of Crievewood each Wednesday this summer at a local restaurant for dinner.

July 3, meet at 5:00 p.m. at Brentwood O'Charley's. 10% senior discount

July 10, meet at 4:00 p.m. at Nana's in Nolensville, TN. If you need a ride make arrangements early. Drivers and riders arrive at Church at 3:45 p.m.

July 17, meet at 5:00 p.m. at Sylvan Park South

Everyone is welcome, but if you plan to go, please let the church office or Nancy Rosdeutscher(615-834-7739) know so that she can notify the restaurant to expect a larger than normal crowd.

UMW Salad Luncheon and Book Sale



The annual UMW luncheon and book sale is almost here! **Sunday, July 14, after the traditional worship service**, everyone is invited for a salad luncheon in Fellowship Hall. A donation will be taken to be used for the mission projects supported by the women of the church. Don't forget to stop by the book fair for a good book for yourself or for a friend. Books for all ages will be available. If you have books you would like to donate, take them downstairs to the youth room by Friday, July 12.

Thank you in advance.

VBS Fun Fair

VBS 2013 begins Monday, July 8, for all children 4 years old by June 1 to children who have completed 6th grade. Please register your child online at <http://2013.cokesburyvbs.com/criveewoodumc>, or pick up a form in the narthex. Kelly Marks and Mindy Morris have done a great job coordinating numerous volunteers and planning a spirit-filled week for the Crievewood Kids and their friends in the Crieve Hall community.

Missions

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. Our day to work on the build 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.

July Book Sale

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. 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.

Activities

Fifth Sunday Picnic

Many thanks to Tracey Lee for a **FUN FAMILY PICNIC** this past Sunday. The food was fantastic (let's just say there was no shortage of watermelon!), and our church softball game was exciting for spectators and players alike.

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. The meetings are usually the 4th Thursday of each month. A van is provided for \$3.00 per person. To set up a reservation see Jean McCurdy. Reservations must be made by the Sunday before the outing. Photos taken during the year will be judged in the November meeting and prizes will be given to best in show.

*Please Note that JOY Club meets on THURSDAYS.
Some of the dates below have been adjusted to reflect that.
Please change your calendar accordingly.*

July: On **Thursday, July 25**, the JOY Club will leave the church at 10:30 a.m. for a mystery lunch. The clue for the lunch is to "watch for cars". At 1:00 p.m. members will tour the Nissan plant via the tram. There are no open-toed shoes allowed on this tour. Bring money for your lunch and \$3 for the van. If you would like to go on the mystery lunch and tour, please make a reservation with Jean McCurdy by July 20, 2013. If you want to just attend the lunch, meet at the church at 10:30 a.m. and follow the van in your car.

August: **Thursday, August 22**, JOY Club members will participate in the third and "early" mystery meal. The group will leave at 3:00 p.m., and dinner will be at 4:00 p.m. The clue for the day is "dinner with a view". The cost of the meal is \$8 and up, plus tip and tax. Also bring \$3 to cover the cost of the van. Please make reservations with Jean McCurdy by August 20.

September: **Thursday, September 26**, lunch will be a buffet at Montgomery Bell State Park purchased at the senior rate of \$8.50 plus tax and tip. We will leave the church at 9:30 a.m.; seating for lunch begins at 11:00 a.m. As always bring \$3 for the van.



Children's Corner

Nursery Schedule

7/07/13

7/14/13

7/21/13

7/28/13

Toddler Nursery

Kelly Marks and John Tickle

Adele and Brad White

Carla and Jimmy Arnette

Renee Hovis and Jani Cate

Infant Nursery

Chris and Kelly Cates

Carol Yarnell and Brenda Wheeler

Mark and Gwen Morrison

Betsy Bean and Blake Leyers

PJ's and Popcorn

Creiewood's **Family Movie Night** was a great success, and our families enjoyed creating 15 goodie bags for families staying in the Ronald McDonald House. Thanks to Kristy Thornton for organizing this event and delivering the bags!

2nd GRADE BIBLES

Creiewood has a tradition of presenting Bibles to our incoming 2nd graders, and we want to be sure your child is included. If you have a child going into second grade, please reply to Leigh Ann Cate at lac723@comcast.net with the name your child would like imprinted on his/her Bible. Bible Presentation will be July 28. Additionally, if your child is in 3rd-5th grade and has not received a Bible from the church, please let us know that as well.

Promotion Sunday

All children entering Kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 4th grade will promote to their new Sunday school classrooms on Sunday, July 28.

Needed For VBS:

We are in need of several Corn Hole sets for Monday, July 8. If you have one you would be willing to drop off by 6:00 on Monday night, please contact Mindy Morris at 615-585-1558 or morrismindyj@gmail.com.

Nursery Clean-up Day

Nursery Clean-up is scheduled for July 21 immediately following traditional worship.

*You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;
only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses,
but serve each other through love.
Galatians 5:13*

Happy 4th of July!

