

# The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

July 9, 2014

## Pastor's Pen

### Our Mission Field

My high school (7th - 12th) had an annual spaghetti supper for which students sold tickets. Through sales, classes competed for a day off and individuals for prizes. In my first year, new to the challenge I rose to the challenge and finished top in my class. My approach was simple enough. Since I often walked home from school I stopped at each house along the way, working both sides of the street. People answered the doors; people bought tickets.

For many years the lay member to Annual Conference from a small church in Cheatam County would stand up, go to the microphone, wave his shoe and challenge Methodist preachers to wear out more soles saving souls. He emphasized the need to get out on the streets and meet people. I miss him.

We are fortunate at Crievewood to live in a defined, healthy, and desirable neighborhood. That is not a thing to take for granted, nor to be overlooked as our primary mission field. We have a holy charge and an organic imperative to know, and be known by, our neighbors. We do, of course, have our 20th Century means (outdoor sign and printed newsletter) and our 21st Century means (webpage and face book page) for communication. Too, we have our building and property for engaging the community. Besides the programs and ministries we design, many neighborhood groups meet indoors, events happen outdoors, and folks enjoy our playground and creek.

Yet, the best opportunity for connecting with our neighbors remains we the people. That is not hard to figure out since we are in the relationship business; the two great commandments have something to do with intimacy between us and God, us and neighbor. However, going door to door seems quaint at best and intrusive at worst. Not to mention that we live in a much more security conscious age, at least in contrast to when Crievewood was established, maybe not so much since Paul headed off to Macedonia.

To be sure, we have our natural rhythms of life that bring us into contact with our neighbors. Judging by the view from my office window, a significant number of the residents of Crieve Hall pass by us daily walking (alone, with others, with dogs, pushing a stroller, or any combination), running (see before mentioned combinations), or hanging out in Ellington. Again, there is a bit of the obvious going on here; we want to meet our neighbors and our neighbors routinely come within our shadow. Yes Lord! Herein is our challenge, how to engage and invite and welcome and receive our neighbors into this faith community. A prayer station on the edge of our property might generate some connection, as well as Sunday morning greeters who venture out to speak to runners and walkers as they come near. We might consider blessing some in the Gathering Service to go out during the service and invite neighbors passing by to the Lord's Table. If you have an idea please let it be known, I can imagine the Holy Spirit saying, "Hey, I am sending the people your way, work with me here".

It is not a competition, though such things have motivational power. It is our calling, our purpose. And while a spaghetti supper is almost always a welcome meal, we are privileged to extend an invitation to the Holy Table God has prepared for all to feast on love and grace. Our life together at Crievewood is a beautiful gift, and worth wearing out shoes to share.

Peter van Eys

## Up-Coming Events

### UMW Salad Luncheon

The annual UMW luncheon and book sale is almost here! **Sunday, July 13, 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.

### Summer Meet and Eat

Please join members of Crievewood 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 **Longhorn's in the Target Shopping Center on July 9 at 5:00 p.m.**

Plans are a little different on **July 16**. We will carpool and travel to Murfreesboro to eat at **Demo's**. Diners must be in the restaurant by 5:00 p.m. to retain their reservation, so we will leave Crievewood on July 16 at **4:00 p.m.** Please let Nancy Rosdeutscher know if you need a ride to Murfreesboro or if you are willing to drive that evening.

## Missions

### 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.

### Alert! Alert! Alert!

#### Ministry Teams Forming and Expanding

Choose your ministry team, and please contact Leigh Ann Cate as soon as possible to let her know on which team you would like to serve. Additionally, if you know someone who would be a perfect fit for one of these groups, encourage them to give it a try. We don't always see or acknowledge our own gifts and talents, but a direct nudge from you may result in our ministries growing!

**Wednesday Night Fellowship Team**—This group will discuss menus, program options and formats for Wednesday nights, beginning in September 2014. This group will meet at least twice between June and August 1 and ongoing as needed throughout the school year.

**Family Ministries Team**—This team plans our annual church picnic, ice cream social, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday gatherings, and welcomes suggestions for new family activities. Tracey Lee is the current team leader, and she would love to add you to this group.

**Event Publicity Team**—Are you talented in the area of communication? How about visual art or great with graphics on the computer? We need your gifts to help promote and advertise our church events. This is a new team, and the possibilities are endless.

**Children's Teaching Ministry Team**—Do you have fond memories of a particular Sunday school teacher? Come be part of our Crievewood Kids' memories, and join us in our Sunday School and Children's Church ministries. We provide a 'buddy system' so you don't go in alone; we provide training and all the materials you need. The children provide hugs, laughter, and incredible insights every week.

### VBS Mission Update

Thanks to the generosity of our VBS families and our church families, we raised over \$420 for this year's mission project, Habitat for Humanity. Your funds will be used specifically for one of our own member's Habitat project. **Thank you** for your generosity and supporting Habitat and our Crievewood Kids!

## Activities

### 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, July 24**, members will visit Maury County for another *Mystery Lunch* and tour the Rippavila Plantation. The guided tour costs \$8 per person. The clue for the mystery lunch is “red and green”. Participants will depart from the church at 10:00 a.m.

The final summer *Mystery Lunch* is on **Thursday, August 28**, in Sumner County. The clue is “red and brown”. Bring extra money to shop. There may be a tour arranged. Assemble at the church by 10:15 a.m.

### Bible Studies

Grow your faith and fellowship circle this summer by joining one of our two weekly Bible studies. The Tuesday Bible study meets at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday and is examining the book of Isaiah. Our second group meets each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. This summer they are studying the women of the Bible. A different women is featured each week, and each lesson is self-contained.

### Family Retreat 2014

Based on registrations, we will break our Family Retreat attendance record this year! There are still a few more days to arrange to be part of our record-setting event in August!

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. Hiking, skits, games, toddler time for our younger set, meaningful, relaxed worship at Vesper’s Point, as well as in the chapel, and campfire are just a few of the exciting events we have planned for our retreat-goers.

Registration forms are available in the narthex, and final payment is due July 27. Rooms are being assigned soon, so if you haven’t signed up, please let Leigh Ann know this week if you plan to attend. Questions? Contact Leigh Ann Cate.

### Farmin’ in the Hall

Fresh produce is available every Thursday this summer from 5-7:30 p.m. at CHNA’s farmers’ market at Crieveewood. Please come and visit us. The market accepts SNAP benefits and strives to make fresh, healthy food available for everyone. A portion of the proceeds help to support Crieveewood Child Care and Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital.

CHNA needs volunteers to help set up and break down the market each Thursday. If you can help please contact Marcilee Morgan at [marcileemorgan@gmail.com](mailto:marcileemorgan@gmail.com) or Kate Cortner.

## Children’s Corner

### Nursery Schedule

	<b>8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.-noon Shift</b>
7/13/14	Randy and Susan Cortner	Sydney Garner
7/20/14	Chris and Kelly Cates	Chris and Kelly Cates
7/27/14	Craig and Blake Leyers	Bekah Cates

## Youth

### Christian Adventure Week

Christian Adventure week will be held July **28th-August 3rd**. It is open to any youth currently going into 7th grade through the class of 2014.

This years schedule includes:

Monday - The Amazing Race

Tuesday - Dinner and a Movie

Wednesday - Canoeing

Friday/Saturday - Day at the Lake

Sunday - Youth Group Kick-off

The week will be loads of fun, and it is a great opportunity to get started with the youth group for the first time. See Steph for more information and to sign-up.