

# The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

August 20, 2014

## Pastor's Pen

This past weekend we had 62 people attend our annual church retreat at Beersheba Springs Assembly. It was quite a blessing to see children, youth, and adults of all ages playing and laughing together. In Philippians 1:19-26, Paul writes from prison to the church in Philippi some thoughts on living in community. As a prisoner he debates whether it would be better for him to die and go to heaven to be with Christ or to remain living on earth. Paul says, "I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again." Ultimately he decides that it would be better to be in heaven with Christ but instead he chooses to stay alive for the sake of the community in Philippi.

How many of us, when we think about going to church in the morning or participating in a church activity really stop to think about the effect that will have on the church community? We often think about how enjoyable the activity will be for us and if our friends will be attending. Perhaps we should be thinking about what we can bring to our church community and what would be missing if we were not there. Without everyone's presence, we are less than a whole community.

Our church retreat would not have been the same without each of the 62 individuals present. Had someone stayed behind we would have had one less smile, one less laugh, one less story. While there is not room in this article to recap all of the joy contained in our church retreat, I will highlight a few of the things we would have missed out on if everyone had not come out for the retreat.

Without Luke Tickle, we would not have gotten excited about reading the Bible

Without the youth, the men would not have been able to relive their glory days on the basketball court

Without Gwen Morrison's nursing skills, we would have had to put Ali Stoner's skills as a doctor to the test

Without Addie Bean and Ivy Dooley, all of the parents would have had to spend a lot more time watching their children

Without Nancy Rosdeutscher and Gray Ethridge, we all would have had to keep an eye on Wayne

Without Ella White, the camp would have been taken over by elephants

Without Caleb Dinger, we would have sung off-pitch and John Mills would not have learned his new favorite song

Without Maddox Parkes, Peter and I would have had a very quiet hike back from the swimming hole, not realizing how much excitement can be found with each step

Without Leigh Coppella, Cate and Charlie would have quickly eaten all of the snacks in the snack room

Without Jim Whited and John Morris we wouldn't have been able to answer any of Betsy's trivia questions

Without Kathryn Buffler we would have missed out on the campfire skits

Without Gail Cate and Martha Turner we wouldn't know what it means to be peacefully calm

Without Leigh Ann Cate and Sharon Farrell, the retreat wouldn't have happened at all (and without Betsy Bean it wouldn't have been much fun!)

This is only a small sampling of the fun we had on the retreat. I know there are many more stories to be shared and each and every one of you who participated contributed to our joy this weekend. The next time you consider whether or not to attend worship or any other church activity I hope that you will consider what you have to offer our community and what the church will be missing if you are not there.

Rev. Steph Dodge

## Up-Coming Events

## New College-Age and Young Adult Sunday School Class

Our college and young adult class is starting this Sunday and we will plan to meet in the fellowship hall at 9:30 a.m. Join us for coffee, snacks, fellowship and Bible study.

## Fifth Sunday Pot Luck Dinner

Have you checked the August calendar? Yes, there are five Sundays, and we will have a pot luck dinner after the traditional service on **Sunday, August 31**. The theme for the pot luck is Southern comfort food. So think about your favorite family recipe, and come and share the dish that makes you smile.

## 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.

Plans are a little different on **August 20**. We will carpool and travel to Smyrna to eat at **Cheddar's**. We will leave Crieewood Wednesday at **4:00 p.m.**, but please arrange your own transportation ahead of time so that enough drivers are available.

On **August 27** members will meet at **Longhorn's** restaurant in the Target Shopping Center at **5:00 p.m.**

Summer Meet and Eat will be extended through the month of September while church construction is ongoing. Details are forthcoming.

## Missions

### AIM Spaghetti Dinner

The adults who are volunteering for Mountain Top are raising money to offset the cost of their mission trip by offering a delicious spaghetti dinner after the traditional service on **Sunday, September 15**. If you can't participate as part of the Mountain Top mission team but would like to support the mission, please plan on attending the spaghetti luncheon.

### UMC Outreach

If the recent violence in the world has left your heart heavy and your mind unsettled, please check out [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org). The United Methodist Church through UMCOR, global ministries, and partnership with other agencies is seeking to relieve suffering and offer hope. Advance #982540 supports projects and initiatives that assist refugees and immigrants. This advance undergirds a broad range of assistance, helping refugees in northern Iraq, those fleeing Syria, and those pouring into the southern border of the United States, and many others. Please consult the web site for more information and ways you can help.

### Preston Taylor Ministries

Like to shop on Amazon? Want to support an awesome local ministry at no cost to you?

On your web browser go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose Preston Taylor Ministries as your charity. After you pick your charity, every time you buy something on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) a small percentage of your purchase will go to that charity. Preston Taylor Ministries is a great organization which works with youth living in public housing in Nashville. There is no added cost to you to support this ministry on Amazon, just shop for the same items you would normally buy on Amazon, and they get a small portion of the proceeds.

### AIM Fall Mission to Mountain Top

Not signed up yet? This is your final invitation to become a volunteer on the Mountain Top mission **October 16-19**. Please contact Joe Buffler immediately at 615-351-0601 if you wish to be part of this team.

## Activities

### 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.

## Bible Studies

The Tuesday Bible Study which meets at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday is taking a break until construction is complete enough that an upstairs room is available for the study and there is less noise. Our second Bible study group meets each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. They are immersed in a nine-week study of I and II Thessalonians entitled *Children of the Day*.

## Family Retreat 2014

Special thanks to our Retreat Leadership Team--Betsy Bean, Kathryn Buffler, Caleb Dinger, Steph Dodge, and Sharon Ferrell—for a wonderful weekend at Beersheba. One retreat-goer commented, "It really is a family retreat because that's what we are...a church family."

If you didn't get to join us this year, we missed you. Please make plans to come with us next year, August 14-16, 2015!

## Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will hold their next monthly meeting on **Saturday, September 13**, at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There is always a great breakfast and fellowship, so make an effort to come. The program at the September meeting will honor scouting.

## 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 final summer *Mystery Lunch* is on **Thursday, August 28**, in Sumner County. The clue is "red and brown". Bring extra money to shop. There is also a tour of Rock Castle in Hendersonville arranged. Please bring \$5 cash for the entrance fee. Assemble at the church by 10:15 a.m. Reservations should be made with Jean McCurdy by August 24.

On **Thursday, September 25**, JOY Club will visit Miss Bobo's Boarding House. **Reservations are due by September 10**. To reserve your spot, a check of \$21 should be made out to CUMC and given to Jean McCurdy.

Also in September, members are invited to lunch and a concert on **September 29** at Belmont UMC. The concert, "Gershwin in Blue", will be performed by Shawn Knight. The cost is \$15 per person. A check, **due by August 24**, should be made out to the church and given to Jean.

## Fall in the Hall

The annual Crieve Hall *Fall in the Hall* will be held at Crieveewood from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on **Saturday, September 20, 2014**. The event has music, food and beverages, many booths and displays, and is "dog friendly". Bring your lawn chair and chat with neighbors; enjoy the fun; but most of all, come and introduce your neighbors to the hospitality of CUMC.

## Youth and Young Adults

### Young Adult Hike to Cummins Falls

On **September 13** we will be traveling to Cummins Falls to hike and swim. We will meet at the church at 9:15 a.m. Everyone should bring a lunch, hiking shoes and a swim suit. The group will carpool to Cummins Falls. Anyone who has graduated high school and still feels like a young adult is welcome to participate. Contact Steph or Peter for more information. We hope that you can join us.

## Children's Corner

### Nursery Schedule

	<b>8:00-10:30 a.m. Shift</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.-noon Shift</b>
8/24/14	Joe and Chris Carter	Josh Cate
8/31/14	Christy and Kellyanne Shaw	Kate Cortner

### Back to School Bash

Children in grades Kindergarten – 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to our annual Back-To-School Bash this coming **Saturday, August 23 at 5:00 p.m.** We will swim, wade in the creek, and jump on the trampoline at the home of Dave and Sue Bean. Please RSVP to Betsy Bean at 260-6821, and use this link [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0D44A8A82BAB9-back](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0D44A8A82BAB9-back) to sign up to bring food. Can't wait to see you!

### Acolyte Training

All students entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as current acolytes, are invited to Acolyte Training on **Sunday, August 24 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. We will review the duties of the acolyte, as well as discuss the schedule for the upcoming year. Please contact our new Acolyte Coordinator, Betsy Bean, at 260-6821 with questions.

## Other News

### Charge Conference

This year's charge conference is set for **Sunday, September 21, at 9:30 a.m.** during the Sunday School hour.