

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

September 25, 2013

Pastor's Pen

Blessing of the Animals Service – October 6th at 5:00 pm

Recently Seamus Heaney died. I appreciated his poetry and have revisited some of his writings in celebration of his life. Born in County Derry, Northern Ireland he won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1995. His address upon accepting that award included a story about St. Kevin, a 6th Century monk and ascetic who lived in Glendalough, Ireland.

St. Kevin was outside kneeling in prayer with his arms outstretched in the form of a cross and a palm turned upward, when a bird mistook his hand for a place to nest and proceeded to lay eggs there. With a deep appreciation for all God's creatures, Kevin remained immobile for weeks until the eggs hatched and the fledglings grew wings and took flight.

That story seems a nice backdrop to the upcoming Blessing of the Animals Service that will take place at 5:00 pm on October 6th in the yard space west of the Fellowship Hall. Such services will occur across town in recognition of St Francis of Assisi and his love of animals; his Feast Day is October 4th. Our youth will help to lead the service. I hope that you will come to celebrate our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, and to meet the pets of others in the congregation or living in the neighborhood. Let me also encourage you to bring dog or cat food to any service on October 6th as another way of blessing animals; the food will be donated to the Nashville Humane Association.

I have found these services to be meaningful over the years, and have encountered a wide array of animals. You might be interested to know that the United Methodist Book of Worship has a Blessing of the Animals Service, which will provide part of our liturgy. The annotated notes remind me to *make allowances for larger animals such as horses and livestock (whatever that means)*, and to use instruments that work well outdoors such as *trumpets and drums (I think not)*.

We may not have the endurance of St. Kevin to hold a kneeling position and outstretched arms for weeks, much less hold bird eggs until they hatch. We may not feel comfortable preaching to the birds or imagine ourselves convincing a wolf to stop terrorizing a village, as St Francis is reported to have done. However, we do understand the giving and receiving of love with our pets and we are aware of the charge God has given us to be good stewards of all creation. With joy let us bless our animal companions and with humility let us thank God for all creatures great and small.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

Fifth Sunday Potluck

September is a five Sunday month, and the Adult Council is sponsoring a fifth Sunday potluck luncheon immediately after the traditional service. Find your favorite fall recipe and plan on joining your Crievewood family for lunch and fellowship on Sunday, September 29.

Habitat Build

Crievewood is supporting the Methodist Habitat Build again this year. 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 Sunday, September 29th.**

A Blessing of the Animals

In the tradition of Francis of Assisi there will be a short service on Sunday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m. to bless our animals and pets. Please assemble on the church grounds to the west of Fellowship Hall. Also, please make sure that your pet is secured.

Jesus, Bombs, and Ice Cream

The Coffee and Discipleship class is beginning a new study called *Jesus, Bombs and Ice Cream*. We are discussing ways to make the world a more peaceful place and envisioning a world with less war and more ice cream. If there is anyone still searching for a Sunday School class, we would love to have you come join us. Everyone is welcome. We meet in the old hand bell choir room directly across from Fellowship Forum at 9:30a.m. on Sunday mornings. Contact Steph if you have questions.

Missions

Giving Thanks in the Hall

Crievewood's Thanksgiving meal team will meet on **Thursday, October 3, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Searchers classroom. If you have signed up to help serve, clean up, or prepare food, please make plans to attend our initial planning session. If you haven't signed up and would like to be part of the Thanksgiving Day feast for our Crieve Hall neighbors, please join us on the 3rd, and feel free to contact Leigh Ann Cate with questions. What a great opportunity for our Crievewood families to serve others!

AIM Thank You

The adult mission team who will go to Mountain Top in October would like to thank the membership of Crievewood for its support of the mission trip through contributions and attendance of the spaghetti lunch fundraiser. Please continue to lift and strengthen our team through your prayers.

How's Nashville

How's Nashville is a community-wide, collaborative, and inclusive effort to end chronic homelessness in Nashville.

In conjunction with How's Nashville, Crievewood Outreach Committee has agreed to provide WELCOME HOME KITS for Nashville's most vulnerable in the homeless community. These persons are being helped to move into permanent housing. As part of that move the Welcome Home Kits are being provided to help with establishing a new household. We would like to encourage each Sunday School class or group to assemble at least one Welcome Home Kit.

Community Care Fellowship Annual Fund Raising Breakfast

CCF is having its annual Fundraiser Breakfast at Brentwood UMC at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 26, 2013. Come and hear about new CCF projects and accomplishments such as the stories of success that people have had in finding jobs, the children's programs which operated during the summer months and the new one that started this fall, and our new involvement with Trinity UMC youth and congregation. Please help us celebrate the past and new adventures that you have helped make possible. If you would like to attend, please contact Ken Pinkston or Tom Lively.

Colorado Flooding

Our prayers are with all who are in the direct path of the flooding in Colorado and the emergency responders who are working tirelessly to protect residents. To date, 919 UMCOR cleaning buckets have been distributed, 400 to the American Red Cross and 519 to The Salvation Army, and 1400 health kits have been distributed, 1000 to the American Red Cross and 400 to The Salvation Army. We encourage churches to gather and assemble cleaning buckets and health kits to replenish inventories. For more information, please click <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>.

Local officials are still in the emergency phase and are doing assessments, therefore, teams have not yet been invited in to serve.

If you would like to contribute monetarily, you can make out a check to Crievewood UMC and designate U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670 in the memo line. You can also donate online at www.umcor.org.

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. 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.

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 9:45 a.m.; seating for lunch begins at 11:00 a.m. Please have your reservations to Jean McCurdy by September 19th, and as always bring \$3 for the van.

October: Thursday, October 24, members will travel to Clarksville to visit the Custom House. The outing includes lunch (cost of \$10) and a tour of Clarksville. Gather at the church Thursday morning by 9:15 a.m. Please register with Jean McCurdy by October 18. Bring \$3 for the van.

Men's Breakfast

Please note that next month, our United Methodist Men's Club breakfast will be held on **October 5th (the First Saturday in October)**.

It should be a great program as **our guest speakers will be our own Bill Tucker and Mike Taylor**. These guys have been deeply engaged in our church's expansion plans and will be joining us to review the progress and talk through the specifics of this design and construction effort. (They will have the pre-construction drawings on hand to reference and review.)

This has been a significant effort and these two gentleman have been tremendous assets to this effort positioning our church with strong "in-house" engineering and contracting resources.

Plan to join us for breakfast at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning, October 5!

United Methodist Women General Meeting

Saturday, September 28, at 9:00 a.m., the UMW will meet in Fellowship Hall for brunch, fellowship, a short business meeting, and a program you will not want to miss. Mark your calendar and make your plans to join other women of your church—men are also welcome. You do NOT have to be a member of a Circle to join us for this event.

Kay Strom of Mercy Ministries will share information about a vital program located in our own backyard!!! Since 1983, Mercy Ministries has restored hope to thousands of desperate young women seeking freedom from life-controlling issues—eating disorders; self-harm; drug and alcohol addictions; depression; unplanned pregnancy; and physical and sexual abuse including sex trafficking.

Mercy Ministries is a free-of-charge program, and is solely funded through generous donations from individuals, businesses, churches and ministries. They are dedicated to transforming the lives of generations searching for truth and wholeness.

Mercy Ministries exists to provide opportunities for young women to experience God's unconditional love, forgiveness, and life-transforming power. Join other women of your church to learn what is happening in your own backyard.

Choir Happenings

You have been invited, encouraged, urged, prevailed on, and now we are begging! PLEASE*JOIN* THE* CHANCEL* CHOIR!!!! We have just begun rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata and we NEED YOUR HELP!! Can you carry a tune, follow a lead singer, watch the director? If you answered "yes" to one of these questions, you qualify for the choir. Join us Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. for an hour of rehearsal filled with good music and fun, then help us in our offering of *Bethlehem's Child*, Sunday, December 22nd at the 10:45 worship service. The cantata blends the old with the new in familiar carols and original compositions. Please share your gift of music with your congregation.

The youth and children choirs are in full rehearsal and we encourage parents to make these rehearsals a part of your weekly schedule.

Thank you to our own Gloria McMahan and Kathy Dortch for the donation of pianos to Crieveewood. Gloria's piano is in her Sunday School class, Fellowship Fourm, while Kathy's piano is in the Searcher's classroom. A big thank you to Cathy Williams for arranging the securing and moving of these instruments.



Wednesday Night Fellowship Fall 2013

- *Dinner is served from 5:15-5:50 p.m., and adult programs will run from 6-6:45 p.m.
- *On September 25, Kathryn Spry, Clinic Coordinator, will speak about ***Justice for Our Neighbors***.
- *On October 2, Beverly Lovell, Sandy Sakarapanee, Golden Triangle minister at Belmont UMC, and Ah Sein, a Golden Triangle weaver, will present an altar cloth that has been made for CUMC in gratitude for our help in the Summer Scholars Education program and camp. They will also present a program about Golden Triangle and its current needs.
- *Children's choirs will begin at **6:00 p.m.**, but all leaders will be in the rooms to receive children at 5:55 p.m.
- *KFC will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights
- *Gathering Music practice is at 6:00 p.m., and rehearsals for Chancel Choir are at 7:00 p.m.
- *PLEASE make your dinner reservation by Tuesday, NOON, if you do not have a standing reservation.

WNF Menus

Wednesday, September 25—Poppy seed chicken, rice, broccoli, cranberries, rolls, and dessert

Wednesday, October 2—Fish, rice, mixed vegetables, rolls, and dessert

Wednesday, October 9— Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, and dessert

Children's Corner



Saturday,
October 26
4:00 p.m.



Start your preparations for
Trunk-of-Treat now;
we've added a prize
for the best
decorated vehicle!!



Nursery Schedule

	Toddler Nursery	Infant Nursery
9/29/13	Jason and Alison Stoner	Renee Hovis and Michelle Hussung
10/6/13	Chuck and Betsy Bean	Craig and Blake Leyers
10/13/13	Carla and Jimmy Arnette	Renee Hovis and Jani Cate

Must LOVE Boys!

The Children's Sunday School area is seeking another pair of teachers who will join our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade boys' teaching teams. All curriculum and materials are provided, and the commitment is four rotating months out of the year. Teachers get together to determine schedules, and you always have a sub if needed. Let Leigh Ann know if you are interested in joining in leading this fun group of boys!

Child Care Fundraiser

The Child Care Center would like your support in a fall fundraiser starting October 25 and running through November 8. Child Care will be selling "Enjoy the City" coupon books to supplement the funds used for classroom supplies, special event costs, and some of the playground maintenance.

The coupon books contain a lot of savings and would make great Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers! Each coupon book costs \$20 and contains enough value to pay for itself. The center will earn 50% of the proceeds, so please check out the coupon books before Wednesday Night dinner or during Child Care hours.

Thank you for your help and continued support for the Child Care Center.
Ann

Other Items

Looking Ahead

The Fall Season has begun and the holiday season will be upon us before we blink an eye. So, please begin to prepare for the Cool Yule celebration on Sunday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m. Contact Cherese Brooks at 615-957-3615 and let her know what piece or presentation you would like to share at this celebration. We want to begin early this year and really pull together a wonderful event that warms our hearts and celebrates the true reason for the season!!!

Weather Policy

As we approach the fall/winter season, remember that the church's schedule follows the Davidson County School's schedule. If Metro schools are closed for inclement weather, all church activities scheduled that day are also canceled.

Position Open at CUMC for Contemporary Music Service

CUMC is currently seeking candidates to fill the position of Coordinator of Music Ministries for The Gathering worship service at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. Candidates must be skilled in playing the guitar and keyboard and have some degree of vocal music skill. Duties include working with other members of The Gathering worship team to coordinate music for the service, lead rehearsals, and maintain the choral library.

Estimated minimum time commitments are as follows:

Lead rehearsals Wednesday evenings--6:00 to 7:00 pm

Play and setup time for each Sunday morning service—8:00 to 10:00 am (approximate)

Music selection/preparation-1-3 hrs. weekly (approximate)

Anyone interested or knowing of possible candidates, please contact Judy Simpson at jsimpson@harvestconstructionllc.com or jkcats7@bellsouth.net. Or you may call the church office at 832-2897 and leave a message.