

The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

November 6, 2013

Pastor's Pen

Lord Teach Us to Pray

As I write we are at mid-point in the stewardship emphasis course shaping our worship experiences. Granted I dwell on the movement and pace more than most, but I am sensing a building tide of holy purpose within the congregation. Together we have been and will be reflecting on the meaning of our membership vows, however, three consecutive Sundays with a baptism has done more to solidify our covenant life and Christian identity. Thanks be to God.

I am eagerly anticipating the Stop Hunger Now event on November 17th; many have indicated that they are able to volunteer some time to package 10,000 meals. It will be a fun intergenerational ministry experience, and make a significant difference in the lives of some who live with food insecurity. If you have not had a chance to sign up, please just plan to come to the Fellowship Hall after the late service. All will be given time on the assembly line!

This Sunday our focus will be on prayer. Rev. Tom Albin, Dean of Upper Room Ministries has noted that the gospels do not record the disciples asking Jesus how to preach or how to do miracles, but we do find the disciples asking Jesus to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1). I hope you will be present in worship to embrace in thought and practice this dimension of our life in faith.

I have been blessed by amazing sights on the horizon these last few mornings; two incredibly beautiful sunrises and one magical sliver of a moon surrounded by twinkling stars. Some foggy mornings had their own ethereal quality, but posed significant challenges to morning traffic. I was further graced by the sights and sounds of children enjoying our Fall Festival. I am so thankful to all who helped to plan, organize, set-up/take-down, and host our Fall Festival; especially Renee Hovis, the Chair! What a gift it is that Crievewood UMC has the opportunity to be present in the lives of so many children, and what a faithful expression of our membership vows by all who helped make it happen, prayed for the event or simply came to welcome and interact with the children.

Christian faith and discipleship are a way of life more than an ideology. As part of the body of Christ gathered at Crievewood UMC, we participate in the wonder of God's creativity and imagination; we share in the joy of Christ's fellowship and kingdom. We pray, we nurture children, we package meals, we gather in worship; every act a response to God's love for us. I am truly humbled to be part of this congregation, stirring the waters of this world in order that all might know and feel and experience that same love.

Peter van Eys

Up-Coming Events

Special Sundays

On Sunday, **November 10**, we will honor our veterans for their service in preserving our freedoms.

Sunday, **November 24**, Christ the King Sunday, will also be our commitment Sunday in which we will culminate our *Stirring the Waters* series of worship sermons while we carry the stewardship message in our hearts throughout the year.

December 1 is the first Sunday in Advent, and we will decorate the sanctuary with Christmas greenery during the traditional service.

Combined Thanksgiving Worship

On Saturday, **November 16**, the combined United Methodist churches of Southeast Nashville will hold a thanksgiving worship service at Arlington United Methodist Church at 5:30 p.m. Please add your voice to those of the community who will offer praise, thanksgiving, and worship of our Lord.

Stop Hunger Now

On Sunday, **November 17** following the traditional service, Crievewood will host a food packaging event in our Fellowship Hall. Working with the international hunger relief organization Stop Hunger Now, we will package 10,000 meals which will be delivered to disaster victims, school based feeding programs, and other hungry and vulnerable people. We need at least 50 volunteers. Please sign up to help or contact the church office if you wish to participate.

Missions

Thanksgiving in the Hall Update

Our first annual Thanksgiving in the Hall meal is a GO! We have a few reservations and people committed to serving and preparing food. We can certainly use more, so let Leigh Ann know if you can help plan, prepare, decorate, serve, or clean up. If your family has been looking for a place to serve, this is it!

In case you haven't heard, members of Crievewood will join together on Thanksgiving morning to serve anyone in our community who is in need/wants a Thanksgiving meal. We are serving at 11:00 a.m., and there is no cost, however we will accept donations if offered.

Our offering isn't just for people with financial need. This meal is also for those who desire to be in community with others who have small families, are alone this year for the holiday, need a change of pace from tradition due to life circumstances, recently moved here with no family nearby, or just flat-out don't want to cook or go to a restaurant.

Every one of you reading this can help by helping us spread the word. Let people know, and if you'd like an actual invitation to send, they are available in the narthex. Also, please pray for those joining us—that they will leave with full hearts, as well as full stomachs.

Outreach Committee Announcement

Reservations and deposits have been made for 20 participants to serve the **Bahamas Methodist Habitat** mission for the week of **July 27 – August 2, 2014**. The cost to participate will be \$500 per person plus airfare. This mission experience is open to anyone, though youth who have not completed the 9th grade will need an adult family member to accompany them. The 20 spots are first come, first served and you can secure your reservation with a \$100 deposit. Act fast! Historically, the 20 spots fill quickly. Please contact Blake Leyers or Jennifer Bizwell with any questions. For more information about Bahamas Methodist Habitat, check out their webpage: www.methodisthabitat.org.

Caramel Corn

Charlie's homemade caramel corn will be available in the narthex on **Sunday, November 17**, in time to include it in your holiday snacks or to eat during your favorite football game. To enjoy this treat, please donate to youth missions. The honor system will be in place.

Activities

Get Your Act Together

Please begin to prepare for the Cool Yule celebration on Sunday, December 1, 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.

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. Photos taken during the year will be judged in the November meeting and prizes will be given to best in show.

November: Thursday, November 21, JOY Club will visit the Lotz House in Franklin, and lunch will follow at Puckett's Boat House. Senior admission to the Lotz House is \$9 per person. Also please bring money for your lunch and \$3 to cover the van. Reservations should be made with Jean McCurdy by November 17.

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.
- *Children's choirs and KFC will begin at 6:00 p.m., but all leaders will be in the rooms to receive children at 5:55 p.m.
- *Pastor Peter will facilitate the *Table Talk* discussion series starting on October 23 and continuing each Wednesday through November 20.
- *In December there will be two special WNF programs, *Holiday Trivia Night* on December 4, and the children's musical ***Special Report*** on December 11.
- *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, at NOON if you do not have a standing reservation.

WNF Menus

Wednesday, November 6— Roast beef, potatoes, carrots, green beans, rolls, and dessert

Wednesday, November 13—Homemade chicken vegetable soup, club sandwich, salad, and dessert

Wednesday, November 20—Chicken divan, rice, salad, rolls, and dessert

UMM

The United Methodist Men will hold their monthly meeting on **Saturday, November 9**, at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There is always a great breakfast, fellowship, and program, so make an effort to come. Then reach out and invite a guest to join you.

United Methodist Women's General Meeting

The Crieveewood United Methodist Women will meet **Saturday, December 7, at 10:00 a.m.** for the final meeting of the calendar year. The program will feature the Wisdom Chorale who will present Songs of the Season. The Chorale has been rehearsing in our sanctuary this fall and is looking forward to sharing their music with the people of Crieveewood. The group is made up of neighborhood folks who have a love of singing and are fifty years old or older. (They allow 40-49 year people but call them "Rookies".)

The group was formed to celebrate and honor the life of Robert E. Binkley, former Metro Public School teacher and church choir director. Bob taught at Donelson High School until the opening of McGavock where he taught until his retirement. For a number of years he was choir director at City Road UMC then took the job of Minister of Music at Vine Street Christian. Well known throughout the Southeast, his students range in showcasing their talents from opera to jazz and rock bands. Many of his former students are a part of the choir. Bob lived in the Crieve Hall community until his death a year ago, and his wife Phoebe and daughter Carolyn still live on Regent Drive. The Wisdom Choral is directed by daughter Carolyn.

Please mark your calendar for December 7, and bring a friend to this musical program.

STUCK—Bible study coming soon!

Beginning January, 2014, a new group is forming on Sunday nights. Exact time and starting date will follow in later publications, but for now, read a portion of the note from the author of the study, Jennie Allen, and email Leigh Ann to be added to the email list if you are interested in joining us. Can't wait!

. ... The more I am let into the deep crevasses of people's hearts, the more I am convinced that every one of us is fighting something. Yet we look out from our secret wars and see people who smile peacefully and seem to be all right—and we smile back at them. I'm done smiling. God is about doing something on this planet. He is about doing something in me, and as long as I am privately fighting and losing inside, He is not getting a thing done through or in me. He has a plan for these spaces inside of us, the places we feel broken, but we have to go to Him. Stuck is a journey to take an honest look at the fight going on inside, leading us to the God who has a plan to restore it, to restore us. —

Children and Youth

Nursery Schedule

	Toddler Nursery	Infant Nursery
11/10/13	Kim and Jeff Boyce	Brenda Wheeler and Helper
11/17/13	Bill and Nina Tucker	Susan and Randy Cortner

Youth Choir

The youth choir will be honoring all veteran and military service members at the traditional service on November 10. They will be showing a PowerPoint of pictures created by Robert Grubbs featuring CUMC veteran and current military service members. The church still has the pictures that were submitted last year. If you have additional pictures that you would like to add, please have them scanned in the church office by November 6.

Mailbox Decoration and Christmas Tree Pickup

The youth will once again be offering to decorate mailboxes for the holiday season and pick up Christmas trees after Christmas. This year the youth will be giving all donations from these two services to the church building fund. **Mailbox decoration will be taking place on December 1.** Please contact Steph Dodge if you would like to have your mailbox dressed for the holidays.

Join Us for These Up-coming Special Events at Crieveewood UMC

November 17, noon	Stop Hunger Now Event
November 28, 11:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving in the Hall
December 1, 10:45 a.m.	Hanging of the Greens Worship Service
December 1, 6:30 p.m.	Cool Yule
December 11, 6:30 p.m.	Children's Musical, <i>Special Report</i>
December 8, 4:00 p.m.	Caroling in Crieve Hall
December 22, 10:45 a.m.	Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata
December 24, 5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service