



The Messenger

Crievewood United Methodist Church

February 22, 2017

Pastor's Pen

Employed For God

The Sunday morning class of which I am a part has been reading and reflecting upon the book **Life Together** by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The author wrote it as a discussion of Christian fellowship, which it has surely elicited.

In the chapter titled *Ministry* Bonhoeffer uses a word that has been translated (from German) as 'employed' to denote those who are actively in service to God both within and through the Christian community. That this is a critical aspect of Christian fellowship is highlighted by his observation that "a community that allows unemployed members to exist within it will perish because of them" (page 94). Yikes!

One might think Bonhoeffer is giving too much power for the existence of a particular Christian community (think church) to the inactive and/or 'unemployed' member, until one considers the finger is pointed at we who allow there to be 'unemployed' members. No doubt we could have a meaningful conversation about Bonhoeffer's warning, and I welcome comment, yet I think it best to motivate by example.

Will Ferrell is a much 'employed' member of this church, this Christian fellowship. By virtue of his position as one of the Lay Members to Annual Conference, he serves on our Administrative Council and on many of the committees of this church; he is faithful to and engaged with every commitment.

Determined to help this congregation pay 100% of its apportionments and eager to connect Crievewood UMC with Crieve Hall neighbors, he has put together several evenings of music and artistic performance. The next one is March 1st at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

I trust that you will present, for several reasons. First, Will has secured an excellent line-up of professional musicians and performance artists. You may have heard me promote this as a talent show; I realize that I was not accurately communicating the expertise of those who are scheduled to perform: Mel Deal, Abby and Glenn Burke, Caleb Dinger, Lindsey Moore, Aaron Rodgers, Luna Devika, Grant Collier, Carol Overton, and Ashley Sofia. This is an outstanding line up.

Second, once again Will is encouraging those present to consider a love offering that will go to Miriam's Promise, a pregnancy, parenting, and adoption ministry supported through our apportionment dollars. There will be more information on the tables about this incredible ministry.

Most of all though, Will is doing what leaders in a church do, he is serving God within and through this Christian fellowship, and modelling what being an 'employed' member looks like. Yes we have this beautiful occasion to experience quality music and performance art. Too, we have the gift of a particular moment to focus on the profound ministry of Miriam's Promise. However, do not overlook the wonderful opportunity to join with Will and be 'employed' at Crievewood through this Nashville Artist Showcase.

As I said, Will hopes to grow this church and extend our connections into the neighborhood. Invite friends and neighbors, maybe offer rides to the event. Be present and prepared to introduce yourself and this Christian fellowship to folks who are not already part of this faith community. Ask Steph, Chelsey, myself or Will how to help facilitate and support this event. If Will had his way, there would be no 'unemployed' member at Crievewood.

Peter van Eys

Up-coming Events

Joint Worship

There will be a joint worship service for Mt. Pisgah UMC, South End UMC, Liberty UMC, and Crieewood UMC. The congregations will meet together on Sunday, [February 26](#), at 6:30 p.m. at Crieewood.

Ash Wednesday

Crieewood will begin the forty day season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday worship on [March 1st at noon](#) in our sanctuary. Please join us on Ash Wednesday as we and other Christians worldwide begin this season of repentance and introspection. Dispensation of ashes will also be offered at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday in the Youth Room before the Artist Showcase.

Nashville Artist Showcase

Please join us for a fun night full of local talent on Wednesday, [March 1](#), from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Crieewood's Fellowship Hall brought to you by these artists:

Mel Deal— professional instrumentalist for 40 years performing in genres of pop, country, jazz, and classical, and gospel here at *the Gathering* each Sunday.

Dr. Abby Burke—vocalist and expert coach in voice and musical theater

Pastor Glenn Burke —pastor and professional saxophone player and woodwind instructor

Caleb Dinger — pianist, composer, and musical worship leader at Crieewood.

Lindsey Moore —a Woodstock native who loves country music and praises God through her life and music

Aaron Rodgers —Grammy nominated producer, engineer, guitarist, singer, and songwriter

Luna Devika —multi-prop contortionist and snake charmer who loves creative expression through movement

Grant Collier — Nashville native, vocalist, and drummer who is majoring in musical therapy at Belmont

Carol Overton —UM lay minister who is a poet, writer, and well-known speaker in the UM Tennessee Conference

Ashley Sofia—named “the future of Folk Rock”, she plays guitar, sings, and has composed over 100 songs which she calls poems set to music.

Music, dance, oration, and refreshments for the body and soul! The event is free, but donations are welcome. Any money received will be applied to the Miriam's Promise apportionment.

Lenten Prayer Station

I have felt called to be more intentional about prayer this Lenten season and decided to dedicate a morning each week to pray for Crieewood, the community, our nation, and our world. I am going to use *Common Prayer for Ordinary Radicals* as the guide for my prayer, and I invite anyone who is interested to join me at 7:30 a.m. on Monday mornings in the Young Adult Classroom. If you would like to spend time in prayer at any time during Lent, the Young Adult Classroom will be set up as a Prayer Room for the duration of the Lent season. I will have the Common Prayer book available as well as some other prayer practices that you are free to use. I also welcome any prayer concerns that you have and will be praying for them individually. You will be able to drop them off in the prayer room, or you are welcome to send them to me electronically.

Rev. Steph Dodge

Missions

Room in the Inn

Pastor Peter had the vision, Joe Buffler had the desire to chair it, many members were willing to serve, and Room in the Inn at Crievedwood was born. We have just completed our second year of hosting the Room in the Inn program during the months of December, January, and February. Forty eight (48) volunteers donated more than 295 hours of their time, setting up Fellowship Hall with cots, sheets, pillows, tables and chairs; cooking delicious and well balanced meals; preparing breakfast; fixing sack lunches to go; washing bedding; spending the night; and driving our guests from and back to the downtown Room in the Inn site. Thank you to all who prayed for our Friday night program and a BIG thank you to the following who participated with hands on:

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| Katheryn and Joe Buffler | Steve Curry | Brenda and Keith Head |
| Chris and Joe Carter | Gray Ethridge | Craig Leyers |
| Connie and Ed Cromer | Jeanne Gardiner | Hayden Morris |
| Randy Cortner | Dennis Garner | John Morris |
| Anne McBryde | Annette Taylor | |
| Kwame Orison | Tandy and Mike Taylor | |
| Stephen Rackard | Stephanie Dodge and the Crievedwood UMC Youth | |
| Nancy Rosdeutscher | The Hussing Family: Michelle, John, John Mills, Marleigh | |
| Lori and David Shipe | The Noon Family: Amy, Patrick, Johnny, Baity | |
| Charlotte Swor | The Stankiewicz Family: Jackie, Phil, Tessa, Sophi | |

TP Sunday

March 5 is the next TP Sunday. Contributions of toilet paper may be left in the narthex where they will be picked up and delivered to Community Care Fellowship and utilized in that ministry to the homeless. Thank you for your faithful commitment in helping CCF reach out to those in need.

Activities

JOY Club

Joy Club will meet on Thursday, **March 23**, but plans for that day are still being developed. More detail will follow in the next newsletter. Meanwhile there are two events in April and May already on the calendar which should be of interest to many in the congregation.

Nashville Metro Police Program on Scams

On **Thursday, April 27**, the Metro Police will present a program on local scams. Please meet at 10:00 a.m. at the church, upstairs, probably in the Builders classroom. A box lunch may be ordered, but it must be paid for in advance. There are two different selections available, each under \$10. Please see Nancy Rosdeutscher to place your lunch choice; please pay with a check made out to Crievedwood UMC. Everyone in the congregation is invited.

Shawn Knight Preforming at Belmont UMC

On **Monday, May 22**, Shawn Knight will perform *The Way We Were* from Learner & Lowe at Belmont UMC. The event includes a lunch and runs from 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. JOY Club will car pool to the event. The cost is \$15. Please make a reservation with Jean McCurdy and pay with a check made out to Crievedwood UMC.

UMW General Meeting

The Crievedwood United Methodist Women will have a General Meeting in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday morning, February 25, at 9:00 a.m.** Joy Lewter is a lay speaker who will share some of her experiences with us. She has an extensive background of service at the local, district, conference, and national levels of the UMW. All women who attend Crievedwood are considered members of the UMW, so please join us. Rebekah Circle will provide refreshments.

Wednesday Night Programs

The last Winter Meet & Eat will be on **February 22**. Please meet in the Olive Garden parking lot on Bell Road at 4:30 p.m. On **March 1** please join us for the Nashville Artist Showcase.

Wednesday Night Live programs and meals will begin on **March 8**. WNL dinners will start at 5:30 p.m., and Pastor Peter will lead a Lenten worship experience after dinner at 6:30 p.m. throughout the Lenten season.

Menus for the next few weeks are as follows:

March 8 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and cornbread

March 15 Spaghetti, salad, and bread

March 22 Pork chops, red potatoes, slaw, and cornbread

Free Community Health Fair (Sponsored by the CUMW)

A Free Community Health Fair will be at CUMC on **Saturday, April 1, 2017, from 8:00 a.m.— 12:30 p.m.** The women are partnering with local health care providers to present speakers on the following topics: diabetes, heart health, cancer, breast health and mammography, Alzheimer disease, child development, pediatric care, pediatric safety in the home, and reflexology. Three to four reflexology chairs for reflex sessions, free health screenings, CPR demos for adults, and hearing and vision screenings for pre-k thru 12th grades will be available. There is something for everyone, and there will be concurrent sessions so you can choose the sessions you are most interested in attending. A FiftyForward booth, health-related booths, an OsteoStrong booth, an Interfaith Dental Clinic booth, and a Publix Pharmacy booth will be set up, and light refreshments mid-morning and prize drawings will be offered. St. Thomas Health's MAMMOGRAPHY MOBILE will also be on site. Please tell your family and friends about the Health Fair as this is a great opportunity to hear the advice of health care professionals at no cost.