

## Pastor's Pen

### In Season

Patti and I lived in Boston for a year, and I remember an article I read in the local newspaper (*Boston Globe*) on July the Fourth. The author was waxing poetic about what Independence Day means to the citizens of the United States, and in particular how it was celebrated across New England. What became memorable for me was his tongue in cheek comment that Vermont has four seasons: winter, winter, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and winter. Consequently, residents of the Green Mountain State mark our nation's birthday with fireworks and cutting firewood for the coming winter.

I am guessing that few of us in the Nashville area waved a sparkler and thought of chopping wood. However, by a similar impulse, even as we are enjoying the slower pace of summer our thoughts around the church office are on the ministries and programs that start back up with the academic school year. So too worship planning, where life in the liturgical season of Ordinary time includes looking ahead to Advent, and so forth.

Living in the present and simultaneously preparing for the future is an important skill set in the human experience. Some posit that we have become such a culture of instant gratification and entitlement that the learning curve on this has been stunted. One mandatory winter in Vermont without firewood might be the corrective teacher we all need.

Yet short of an extended New England road trip, we have the sublime instruction of the Christian faith. We worship God who entered the bounds of time to reveal the eternal through Jesus Christ. We announce a Kingdom of God that has come and the charge to work for the day when it is fully here; the holy tension of the now and the not yet. We are a community forever seeking growth in the faith while in turn working to pass on the faith. And our liturgical cycle holds before us the unfolding story of God's relationship with humanity that always seeks to strengthen our life for today while calling us into a preferred future.

You may be reading this on a break from collecting firewood, or between dips in the pool; no matter, I simply encourage you to intentionally embrace the life we share in Christ. Faithfulness to the Baptismal covenant and membership vows that tether us with God and one another will no doubt please God, is surely good for your soul, and has the power to teach us how to live both, fully in the present and ready for the future.

It is of course true that just as our future depends on decisions we make today, our present is a consequence of decisions we made in the past. Here again our Christian hope sustains and informs, for in Christ we are continuously offered newness of life. In other words, no matter our past or present, that love, that grace, and that future is never out of season. Experience it at Crieewood!

Peter van Eys

## Up-coming Events

## Lay Liturgist Class

There will be a meeting on **August 20<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00 p.m. for persons who would consider serving as Lay Liturgists in our traditional services. This is a wonderful ministry opportunity to expand our ministry of hospitality and a beautiful way to grow our worship life. The time together will include training, reviewing expectations, and providing opportunity for those who would commit to set dates on our worship calendar.

## Crievewood Annual Retreat 2017

**August 18-20, 2017**

If you have not made your reservation for the annual church retreat, it's time to start thinking about cool mountain air, hiking, rocking chairs, games, bonfires, time together worshipping God, and turning in paperwork. The retreat is only a few weeks away, and the deadline to register is July 16. Registration forms for the annual weekend at Beersheba are available in the narthex and on the website.



## Missions

### Little Dresses for Africa

Bored? Want to do something different? If you are a tween or youth in fifth grade or older, try creating a little dress for Africa. No sewing experience is necessary.

This mission project is scheduled for **July 19** at 2:30 p.m. Please bring 1 to 2 yards of 100% cotton fabric, a package of bias tape, and some 3/8" elastic.

The location will be determined by the number of persons who wish to participate. If you would like to help, please contact Kathryn Buffler at 615-598-5998 or [kwbuffler@att.net](mailto:kwbuffler@att.net).

If you would like to contribute, but do not want to sew, material and money donations are always appreciated.



### AIM: Fall Mountain Top Trip

The Outreach Committee has scheduled the annual CUMC adult fall mission trip to Mountain Top on **October 5-8**. If you would like to participate in this effort to meet the physical need of the residents of the Cumberland Mountains while sharing in the fellowship and service of our Lord, please call Joe Buffler at 615-351-0601.

## Collections

One person's trash can be another person's blessing. We continue to collect plastic lids and caps to be recycled into colorful park benches. Please place your items in the decorated paint can on the cabinet top in the back of Fellowship Forum classroom.

The UMW also continues to collect UPC labels and box tops from qualifying products to support Red Bird Mission in Eastern Kentucky. A list of qualifying products can be found at [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). Your labels may be placed in the plastic container on the counter in the hospitality room in the upstairs Educational wing.

## Activities

## Summer Meet and Eat

Meet and Eat is an opportunity for Crievewood friends to gather on Wednesdays at a local restaurant for dinner and fellowship during the summer months. This summer there is an expanded list of restaurants most within a short driving distance from the church. The schedule for the next few weeks of Meet and Eat is listed below

July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Red Lobster in Hickory Hollow
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Demo's in Murfreesboro carpool: meet at the church at 4:00 p.m.
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	LongHorn's in Nashville (OHBV)

Please gather in the restaurant parking lot of the scheduled restaurant at 4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Also, please let Nancy Rosdeutscher know if you plan to attend so that there is an accurate reservation count.

## JOY Club

Joy Club will take a vacation break in July and August and resume again in September. Relax and enjoy God's wonderful creation.

## Young Adults

The young adults of Crievewood and Glendale meet on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. at Bongo Java in the Belmont/ Hillsboro Village for fellowship and devotion.

## Farmers' Market

Crievewood bursts with energy every Thursday as people gather for the farmer's market. The event begins at 4:30 p.m. and lasts until 7:00 p.m. and runs through August 31<sup>st</sup>. Garden produce is in peak season. Please come, meet your neighbors, extend a Crievewood welcome, and support the local farmers by buying fresh produce for your family table.

## Other News

### Newsletter Makeover

The first step in creating our new electronic newsletter is determining the list of those who would like to receive it. The Mail Chimp software that we will use will automatically maintain our newsletter list. The software will verify that email addresses that are submitted are valid addresses with no "typos", that only those who wish to subscribe are on the list, and that internet spam bots are not included in the list.

To do this Mail Chimp uses a double opt-in process. A lot of words that simply means that the software will ask you to subscribe and then confirm that subscription. By the end of July you will be able to sign up through our website or Facebook page. The staff will be here to help if you need us, but we are confident that you will find the process to be simple.

There are some of our members who will not be able to do this because they do not have access to electronic communication through smart phone or computer. If you are one of those people, please call the church office at 615-832-2897.

## Preaching Schedule

	<b>Crievewood</b>	<b>Glendale</b>
July 16	Rev. Steph Dodge	Rev. Peter van Eys
July 23	Rev. Peter van Eys	Rev. Steph Dodge
July 30	Dr. Cherie White	Rev. Steph Dodge
August 6	Rev. Peter van Eys	Rev. Steph Dodge



# Children

## Nursery Schedule

	<b>1st Shift</b>	<b>2nd Shift</b>
July 16	Tom and Becky Freck	Tom and Becky Freck
July 23	Jimmy and Carla Arnette	Jimmy and Carla Arnette
July 30	Mindy and Camden Morris	Kathryn Buffler and David Cate

# Youth

## Youth Summer Wednesday Activities

On **July 12** meet at Kouzina Café at noon and then drive right across the street for bowling at Tusculum Strike and Spare . Please bring money for lunch and \$4 for bowling.

On **July 19**, gather at S.A.T.C.O. at noon. Please bring lunch money! The group will ride the bus to the Frist Center for the Visual Arts. Metro Nashville students grades 9-12 may ride for free with a student ID. If you don't have an ID, bring \$1 for the bus. Visitors 18 and younger get into the Frist for free.

## Christian Adventure Week

### July 30-August 5

#### **Sunday, July 30: Youth Group 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Welcome the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders with some fun indoor and outdoor games and the opportunity to tie dye your very own Christian Adventure Week 2017 t-shirt! Wear clothes that can get messy! Dinner will be provided.

#### **Monday, July 31: The Amazing Race 5:00 p.m. – around 8:00 p.m.**

A crazy awesome scavenger hunt with tasks to complete, people to meet, and places to go! Dinner will be provided.

#### **Tuesday, August 1: Hot and Cold 8:30 a.m. – around 4:30 p.m.**

Hot: outdoor service projects and Cold: ice skating at Centennial Sportsplex!

Bring clothes to work outside and pants and a jacket for ice skating. Lunch will be provided.

#### **Thursday, August 3: Nashville Zoo 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Groups will compete in a photo scavenger hunt at the zoo! Make sure your phones are charged so you can snap the best pics possible! Dinner (not at the zoo) provided.

#### **Friday, August 4: Sleepover at the Bean's 6:00 p.m. – until**

The Beans are so generous to host this epic annual sleepover, one of our most popular events each year. Families are invited to join the youth for a potluck and lake activities on Saturday.

You may be dropped off and picked up at the church each day except for Saturday when you will be picked up from the Bean's house in Gallatin. It is also not too early to start thinking about which friends to invite to Christian Adventure Week. Please have them fill out a release form now so they won't miss out on any of the fun that week.