

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - OCTOBER 12, 2009

From the Pastor's Pen

"Disappointment"

Last week we had the opportunity to host fellow Christians, partners in the work of the kingdom, and friends from Nicaragua. Now they have gone back to Nicaragua. There are some of us who are disappointed that two others whom we thought were coming as well were not allowed to come because they were denied visas. Members of our Outreach/Mission Team and members of our church worked diligently to try to get this reversed but to no avail. And so it was that we experienced some disappointment in the midst of what was to be a time of great joy.

Sometimes that's the way life is, and so one of the questions we humans often have to face is how we deal with disappointment. And the way we deal with disappointment is especially important when that disappointment hurts us deeply as it often can do. With that said I would like to share some thoughts about this subject with the aid of a couple of stories.

Once a tired farmer in the noonday heat sat down under a walnut tree to rest. As he sat there resting he looked at his pumpkin vines, and he thought to himself, "God is really very foolish and inexperienced. He puts big heavy pumpkins on a frail vine that has so little strength it has to lie on the ground. And then he puts small walnuts on a big tree with branches that can hold a man. Any man could do better than that!"

Just then a breeze came and dislodged a walnut from the tree under which he sat, and the walnut plunked him on the top of his head. At that point the farmer rubbed his head and said to himself, "It's a good thing there wasn't a pumpkin up there."

Sometimes we wonder why things have to happen the way they do. Surely there could have been another way. Surely there could have been a better way. The way things happen often bring disappointment to us. But it just may be that in the things that happen, even the disappointing things, God is working in a way that at that moment is not completely clear to us. In the midst of disappointment we need to trust God that God is all wise and that God sees the bigger picture.

The Biblical character Job could not understand why he, a righteous man, was having to suffer, and so he sought an audience with God to present his complaint. Job received that audience with God, and when he did, God basically told him that while his suffering was very unfortunate, Job couldn't see the whole picture as could God.

And so that helps us to deal with disappointment. While the disappointment hurts and it is unfortunate that we have to suffer it, there just may be a bigger picture that we're not seeing yet. And that bigger picture, when we see it, just may turn our disappointment into understanding.

A second story goes like this. Charles Spurgeon, a noted English clergyman, noted a weather vane on the roof of a farm building that bore the phrase "God is love." Troubled by what he saw, Spurgeon asked the farmer, "Do you think God's love is as changeable as the weather vane?" And the farmer replied, "You miss the point sir. It's on the weather vane because no matter which way the wind is blowing God is love."

No matter what may be happening in our lives whether it is a time filled with joy or whether we are suffering disappointment, God is still love. The way we deal with disappointment is to remember that God loves us deeply no matter what is happening in our lives, good or bad, and that there just may be a greater purpose to which we are not privy. And that greater purpose may in time come to light. In short, we deal with disappointment by never ever giving up on God, by trusting God completely, and by keeping ever before us the fact that God loves us all the time. Just something to think about.

Until next time,
Bro. Jim

SWAMP JOHN'S
OCTOBER 18, - 11:30 - 1:30 P.M.
COST IS \$10 PER PLATE
SPONSORED BY OUTREACH COMMITTEE
FOR THE NICARAGUAN EDUCATION FUND

UMW NEWS

- **PULASKI DISTRICT UMW FALL MEETING**

THEME: VOICES OF CELEBRATION

What? UMW Pulaski District Fall Meeting

Where? Prospect United Methodist Church in Giles County

When? Saturday, October 17 The church van will leave the CLC parking lot at

8:00AM The meeting begins at 9:00AM

How Much? Register at the door \$5.00 for lunch

Make plans for a fun day!

****Please bring in your soup labels and box tops for education to take to the Fall meeting. You may leave them in the box in the Wesley class or drop them off at the church office.**

UMW NOVEMBER HARVEST

With cooler temperatures arriving, and the beautiful colors of autumn appearing, we are reminded that the time is almost here for the annual UMW November Harvest on Nov. 14th from 8a.m. - 12 noon. That's more than a month away, so please mark the date on your calendar or date book. This is an important event in the life of our church, as it helps the UMW with its many worthwhile mission projects throughout the year. Here's all you have to do-----

Bake a delicious pie or cake; make cookies, candy, cupcakes, or delicious homemade breads, jellies or jams and bring them to our bake sale. Our church is full of great cooks (both men & women), so please bake your specialty and donate it to be sold. If each family in our church would bring just one baked good, we'd have enough to fill all the tables in the CLC. If you can't find time to bake, then by all means support your church by attending and purchasing items. We'll also have homemade stew, chili, chicken & dumplings and pimento cheese and chicken salad.

Be part of this year's November Harvest and feel good about doing your part to help your church!
Gracie Henson

P.S. Come early and enjoy a breakfast of sausage & biscuit with juice and coffee while you shop.

****Please start bringing in pint and quart jars and ½ pint jelly jars for the Autumn Harvest.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nurture & Membership Care Team meets on Tuesday, October 20, at 6:00 p.m.

Education Committee meets on Thursday, October 22, at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting for Bethlehem 2009 on October 27, at 6:00 p.m. in the CLC

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE MEETING

The Mary-Martha Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 20th, at 6:30 p.m.

RUTH-GUILD BIBLE STUDY

The Ruth-Guild Study group will meet on Tuesday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m. at the Summit. **Please remember to bring your World Thank Offering.**

YOUTH FUND RAISER INNISBROOK WRAPPING PAPER, GIFTS & CANDY

The youth will be selling Innisbrook wrapping paper, gifts and candy for the next two weeks. You make buy from any of the youth, Alecia, or come by the church office and order from the brochure there.

JUST 4 YOUTH

A fun trip on Saturday, October, 24th. We will meet at church on Saturday, October 24th at 3:00 p.m. in the parking lot. We will be going to Buffalo Wild Wings for supper, then to Millers Thrillers for fun! Please bring money for your supper and \$10 to get into the Thrillers. **You must have turned in your permission slip to go.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER IN THE CLC

The Wednesday Night supper menu for Wednesday, October 21st is:

Lasagna
Salad
Broccoli
Garlic Bread
Apple

Workers: **Jerry Thomas/Stellar classes**

MMC CONCERT CHOIR OPENING FOR THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Tuesday, December 1, 2009, the Martin Methodist College Concert Choir will once again open for the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry House. The show starts at 8:00 p.m., with the choir performing at 7:15 p.m. We have secured a number of group tickets for \$35.00 each. If you are interested, please make your reservation by Monday, November 16th. Please contact Mark F. Hagewood, Asst. Director of Choral Programs at 931-424-7368.

VIM WORK DAY AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE

A note from Rev. Earl Davis (Pastor at Antioch/Dunn UMC's)

For those who were unable to attend the meeting Monday evening, we made good progress on the district office project Saturday. The ramp is done except for a little bit of concrete work and looks great! The bathroom is mostly demolished!

Work left to do on the bathroom includes finishing some demolition, installing a door, installing sheetrock on the walls, installing flooring, and installing a new toilet. We also need to install a wider door between the kitchen and the conference room and install French doors in the opening between the conference room and Pat's office.

We will work again **this Saturday, October 17**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. We will have materials there ahead of time. If you plan to come, please let me know so we can plan the work. If anyone would like to volunteer to help Pat clean up the following week, I'm sure she could use the help as well.

WITH ONE ANOTHER

David Robertson
Freddie Mae Jackson
Oscar and Agnes McCarter

Bill Evans
Scottie McMackin
T. J. Moore
Norman Marston
Jean Cone
Scott Dean
Brian Beller
Robert White
Aaron Kirby (serving in Iraq)
Charlie Krieger (serving in Iraq)
Rob Nelson & Family
Jim Weatherford
Tom Stillwell
Donnie Kilburn
David Bass
Tyler White
Ruth Wiley

AN INVITATION

*Kenneth and Nancy Nelson
Along with Robert and Jeanette Spicer
Invite you to share and celebrate the marriage of
Emily Jean
To Gregory Haygood
Saturday, the twenty-fourth of October
Two thousand and nine at six o'clock in the evening
The Grande at Kennesaw
3030 North Main Street Kennesaw, Georgia*

I Will Be Loyal

**To The United Methodist Church And
Support It With: My Presence:**

Sunday, October 11, 2009

8:15 a.m. Worship Attendance.....45

Sunday school Attendance.....82

10:30 a.m. Worship Attendance.....85

My Service: Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009

Acolytes: tba

Loaves and Fishes: Tues. & Thurs.

Tues. Oct. 20, Loulie Brown, Jean Grimsley, Anita Marston, & Jerry Gibbs

Thurs. October 22, Joan Cochran, Joyce Holmes, Martha Jo & Jerry Gibbs

***Now is the time for you to bring good, gently used coats and jackets to the Food Pantry to give away for the fall and winter. Children's and Adult's (all sizes) are needed.**

TRUNK OR TREAT
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
AT 5 P.M.
HOTDOGS & HAMBURGERS

