

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Lawrenceburg, TN - SEPTEMBER 29, 2008**

An appropriate title for this article might well be expectations. I have found that people tend to live up to the expectations others have of them. Thus expectations can be a great motivating force. One of the things I found while in business was that what we expected of our employees we usually got. If we had high and good expectations of them, that's what we got, or if we had low and not so good expectations of them, that's generally what we got. Thus expectations of others and of ourselves are important, as the following story, I think, will illustrate.

Once there was a salesman driving a dark, lonely, country road one rainy night, and the salesman had a flat tire. When he opened the trunk of his car, he discovered he had no lug wrench, and so changing the tire was an impossibility. Up the road he could see a dimly lit farmhouse, and so the salesman started up the road to the farmhouse.

As the salesman slogged along in the rain he began to think to himself, "Surely the farmer will have a lug wrench I can borrow, but it is late at night. And quite possibly the farmer will be asleep in his nice, warm, dry bed. And what if the farmer doesn't answer the door? And even he does answer the door, the farmer may well be angry at being awakened at this time of night."

Well, the salesman slogged on toward the farmhouse, picking his way along blindly in the dark. His shoes and his clothes by now were soaked by the rain. And as the salesman walked on, he continued to think to himself what might be forthcoming when he finally did reach the farmhouse. "Even if the farmer does answer the door," he thought to himself, "he may say something like this. 'What's the big idea waking me up in the middle of the night?'" And with that the salesman became angry. "What right did the farmer have refusing him the loan of a lug wrench? After all he was stranded in the middle of nowhere, and he was soaked to the skin. That farmer was nothing but a selfish clod. There was no doubt about that!"

Well, the salesman finally reached the farmhouse, and he banged loudly on the door. A light went on in the house, and a window opened above him. A voice called down, "Who is it?" The salesman now white-faced with anger from all of his "what if" thinking called back, "You know darn well who it is! It's me! And you can keep your blasted lug wrench! I wouldn't borrow it now if it was the last one on earth!"

The thing about expectations is that, generally speaking, we get about what we expect. So if you expect to get the worst, it might be well to prepare for the worst. You just may get it. And if you expect the best - well, there's good news. You may well get that too.

There is something to say for thinking positively and expecting the best. Just something to think about.

Until next time, **Bro. Jim**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU FOR OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

The menu for Wednesday night, October 8<sup>th</sup> will be: Lasagna, Garden salad, Garlic bread and Apple Crisp. The Children's menu will be Hot dogs and French fries. The Friends & Fellowship class will help serve and clean up.

**CHARGE CONFERENCE**

Our Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday evening, **November 2, at 6 P.M.** The following written reports will be expected at that time: Committee on Finance; Trustees; Staff-Parish Relations Committee; Parsonage Annual Inspection Report; Lay Speakers Reports; Martin Representative's Report; and Celebration of Missions Report. **The forms for each are available at the church office.**

**ADOPT - A - HIGHWAY**

Please mark your calendars. The next scheduled Adopt - A - Highway is Saturday, October 25, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in this highway clean-up.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE TO SPONSOR SWAMP JOHN'S - OCTOBER 5**

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Swamp John's Dinner on Sunday, October 5,

from 11:30 - 1:30 p.m., in the CLC. The price for one ticket is \$10.00. The proceeds benefit the Nicaragua Education Scholarship Fund. Tickets can be purchased from any committee member or through the church office.

### **NEWS FROM THE HAPPY ELDERS**

A "Flower Arranging Class" has been re-scheduled for Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our instructors will be members of the Flower Lovers Circle. If you can attend, please call Frances Griffin (\*\*\*), Anita Johnston (\*\*\*\*), or the church office (762-3696). Bring flowers to arrange, a container or bowl and a frog or material to anchor the flowers in your arrangement.

The Happy Elders have 14 tickets to see the play "Tuna Christmas" on Dec. 4, 2008. We will leave the west parking lot of the church at 9:30 a.m.; have lunch at noon and then the play with dessert at intermission. We should be back in Lawrenceburg around 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. Call Jean Robertson (\*\*\*\*\*) or see Terri in the church office. Sign up and money should be in by Nov. 14, 2008. Cost is \$25.00. First come, first served.

### **LETTERS FOR OUR FRIENDS IN AMATITAN, NICARAGUA**

Beverly Duke will be representing our church at a Partnership Encounter in Managua, Nicaragua, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. This Encounter is a conference of U. S. Partners and Nicaraguan Partners in covenant relationships through CEPAD. She will travel to Managua on October 21<sup>st</sup>. If you write letters to your friends in Amatitan or to the church in general, she will take the letters on her visit to Amatitan, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. Please write your letters and get them to her by October 10<sup>th</sup>. The letters will be translated into Spanish. Please continue your prayers for our covenant relationship church, The Fountain of Life Church, and for Beverly as she travels as your representative.

### **A LETTER OF THANKS**

**Dear James and Brenda,**

Thank you so much for the opportunity of sharing about Henderson Settlement. You have a very generous congregation. The love offering was \$982, because I received two checks downstairs. The craft proceeds were and additional \$409! Your church blessed us so much. Thank you so much for taking us to lunch. The time we spent with you was a blessing for us. We hope to see you again soon! We hope you will bring a work team here next year.

**Blessings, Gary & Vicki (Stevenson)**

### **MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8!**

**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

This year our UMW will not be having our traditional Fall Luncheon and Bazaar. Instead **Bake Sale, Breakfast and Beyond** describes our new fall event.

- **Bake Sale** - tables full of goodies including homemade breads, cakes, pies, cookies, candy, spiced tea and hot chocolate mix. The latest edition of the First United Methodist Church Cookbook will make its debut. Also, look for an assortment of jellies, jams, canned fruits and vegetables. Plenty of great gift choices!
- **Breakfast** - Sausage & biscuit, juice and coffee to be enjoyed while you shop.
- **Beyond** - Homemade lunch items such as pimento cheese, chicken salad, stew, chili, chicken & dumplings, and desserts conveniently available for carry out.

**Prayerfully consider how you can plug in. Success depends on everyone's participation.**

**\*\*\*Please remember to bring pint and quart jars that can be used for carry-outs.**

### **WITH ONE ANOTHER**

David Robertson  
Freddie Mae Jackson  
Oscar and Agnes McCarter  
Bill Evans

Selene Crews  
Edythe Edwards  
Robert White  
Elmer Hackney  
Scottie McMackin  
Ivene Hammond  
Rev. Clifton Johnston  
Ruby Lopp  
T. J. Moore  
David Shaw  
Meredith Nordin  
Elmer Cooke  
Norman Marston  
Ellen Crews

...**Congratulations** to Katie Wayne (daughter of Paul and Belinda Wayne) for winning "Little Miss Fairest of the Fair".

...**The flowers on the altar** this past Sunday were given in memory of Bruce Edwards, Sr. (07-19-20-09-28-08), by Bruce and Barbara Edwards, Jr. This information was put in the early service bulletin, but mistakenly left out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> service bulletin. My apologies to the Edwards family.

#### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Habitat for Humanity of Lawrence County has started a project at 514 1<sup>st</sup> St., Lawrenceburg, TN. The foundation will be completed sometime this week. For the next few months, volunteer workers will be needed to complete this home for Sandy Shultz and her family.

If you are able to volunteer any time to help build this home, please call Pam Shaffer at \*\*\*\*\*. We need volunteers with varying skills, from sheet rocking, pounding nails, roofing, painting walls, putting up cabinets, plumbing, to cleanup and providing food and drink for the volunteer workers. Any amount of volunteer time will be greatly appreciated, even if it's just a couple of hours.

#### **I Will Be Loyal To The United Methodist Church And Support It With: My Presence: Sunday, September 28, 2008**

8:15 a.m. Worship Attendance.....45  
Sunday school Attendance.....84  
10:30 a.m. Worship Attendance.....101

#### **My Service: Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008 Acolytes: Brianna Snider & Katie Rochelle**

**Nursery Helper:** Mary Ann Clayton

#### **Volunteers are needed in the nursery on the following dates:**

October 12

December 14                      December 21

December 28

Please call Cissy Holt at \*\*\*\*\* or leave a message with the church office (762-3696).

#### **Loaves and Fishes: Tues. & Thurs.**

**Tues. 07:** Loulie Brown & Gracie Henson

**Thurs. Oct. 09:** Joan Cochran & Pam Shaffer

#### **OPEN DATES FOR ALTAR FLOWERS**

December 28

#### **UMYF FUNDRAISER-WRAPPING PAPER**

**(September 28 - October 8)**

UMYF will be selling wrapping paper through October 8.

**UMW REMINDER**

UMW Conference Meeting will be Saturday, October 11, at 9:00 a.m. at Columbia-First Church. We will be taking the church van and will leave the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Make plans to join us.

