

The Visitor

May 2017

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“Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Ephesians 4:15-16

This month I want to share with you an excerpt from a little devotional book, “Dare to Journey with Henri Nouwen” by Charles Ringma. I find the insights in this book to be both an encouragement and a challenge.

Work and Faith:
Solitude Knows the Cry of the World

Personal spirituality is not achieved individualistically and is not simply a quest for self-improvement.

Spirituality can only fully develop when we include others and serve our neighbor. A spirituality that only knows “holy isolation” is most probably an illusion, and a spirituality that fails to serve others is more than likely self-indulgent.

True spirituality knows both the place of solitude and the cry of the world. It is concerned about self-development but sees it occurring much more through serving another than through pampering the self.

Because true spirituality so fully turns its face toward the world, it needs to be sustained in a community of faith. For if we face the cry of the world by ourselves, we will certainly become overwhelmed.

This, of course, does not mean that the community of faith is always successful in its response to the world. Nouwen writes, “As a community of faith we work hard, but we are not destroyed by the lack of results.” The reason the community of faith is not destroyed is that we can exist in no other way. For such is the nature of true spirituality.

“True spirituality knows both the place of solitude and the cry of the world.” Our perfect example of true spirituality, Jesus Christ, knew both times of deep prayer and solitude and times of loving service to both friend and foe.

The church is called the “body of Christ” and as such it is imperative that we follow Christ’s example. I think sometimes we become so involved in the “doing” that we forget about the “being.” I also think that sometimes we can become so internally focused on what’s best for “us” that we fail to see and respond to the needs of others. When we find the right balance of solitude and service we more truly reflect the image of Christ in our world. In a world filled with images of hate, prejudice, intolerance, and division, I can think of no more beautiful image for us to reflect!

Forever Singing His Praise,
Pastor Teri



Mark your calendars!!!
June 12-16



This past month has been a season of grief and growth. My heart has been very tender and at the same time my heart has been overwhelmed with blessings!

I have always said that walking through this valley with those the Lord has called me to minister to is holy ground. It is a most privileged place and one of the most rewarding parts of my call as “pastor.” Now I can honestly say that to be on the receiving end of that valley walk is also truly holy ground. I never had a doubt that you at HUMC would step up to the plate to make sure that the church continued to function in my absence – even during Holy Week. That you did and I am forever grateful. More than that, feeling your love and your prayers, reading the cards of sympathy, seeing flowers given in Dad’s honor, hearing words of comfort, seeing your faces and feeling your hugs at the visitation, and just knowing that you are carrying me in your hearts – Wow! I am so humbled and blessed. You will never know just how much this all means to me. You are my family and I love you!

To say “thank you” just doesn’t seem enough, but I do and my family does thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

I am Forever Singing His Praise,
Your Pastor Teri

Thank you one and all for all of the well wishes on our 40th Anniversary! We were overwhelmed with cards and kindness. We are so blessed to have you in our lives and we thank God for you. Pastor Teri



I am a dog lover. I have had a dog most of my life. So when I saw *The Dog Who Was There* at the store, I was immediately attracted to it. On the cover is a mutt of a dog walking down an unpaved road, and in the distance are three crosses, the significance of which any Christian gets immediately. Then I knew I had to get it for the library. I read it last week and was not disappointed a bit.

Barley had been found as a nearly drowned pup in first century Judea by a loving couple who took him home. You realize they are Christians from their actions, saying the Lord's Prayer and talking of the Teacher and having even met him. Barley lives a happy, contented life with Adah and Duv for seven years. Duv makes a living by carving birds that they take to market in town to sell. But one day they do not return. Barley, worried and afraid, sets out to find them. And thus begins his adventure that takes him to Golgotha and beyond.

The story of Barley, the people he meets, and the effect of the Teacher on people touched my heart tremendously. And unlike anything else I have read recently, this feeling stayed with me for several days.

The book was written by Ron Marasco who is a professor at Loyola Marymount University. The book is shelved in the section set aside for new books. Hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

Meredith

Congratulations, 2017 Graduates!

We offer our congratulations to our graduates this year. They will be honored during our worship service on **May 28**. Good luck to all of you on your next step forward in life. Your church family is proud of you.

Junior High:

John Smith
Trinity Tatman



High School:

Nicole Eldridge
Quinn Powers
Anne Preston
Teagan Townsend



Administrative Council April 20, 2017

Attending: Pastor Teri. Julie Katterhenry, Mary Kay Anderson, Mary Jenkins, Quinn Powers, Shawn and Corey White, Peg Poole, Sue Smith

Call to Order: Julie Katterhenry called the meeting to order at 7PM. Pastor Teri provided devotions reading a passage from Beth Moore's devotional *Looking Up*. Following the devotional Pastor Teri led the council in prayer as the meeting was opened. The March minutes were read and reviewed. Corey White moved to accept the minutes, and Quinn seconded. The minutes were accepted as written.

Church Treasurer's report: Corey White presented the church treasurer's report for March which included a year-to-date summary of expenditures following the budget code. Discussion followed. Members of the council appreciated this format that allows easy access to expenses through the budget set-up. Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Trustees Report: With Bruce Bryan in the field planting, Julie Katterhenry gave a brief report on activities by the church trustees. Two work days occurred in April to address the old wiring in the sanctuary. One more work day should be all that is necessary to complete this project. She also reported that HUMC now has a new ice machine in the kitchen.

Trustees Treasurer's Report: Tom Smith was also in the fields so there was no trustee treasurer's report.

Christian Education Report: Mary Kay Anderson and Shawn White both commented that the recent high school trip to Indianapolis for the Toby Mac concert was an enjoyable time. It was a great experience of worship and fellowship.

Mary Jenkins presented an update on the 2017 VBS event which will be held June 12-16, Monday through Friday this year. The theme is HERO Central- Discover Your Strength in God- where the children will discover their strength in God and realize they are God's heroes, spreading His love to the world. Themes include courage, heart, and other characteristics of a hero. The mission focus will be Operation Gratitude- a ministry supporting our military in the field with care packages. Fliers are available in a pocket folder on the bulletin board in the foyer at HUMC listing items that can be donated to this mission. During VBS the kids will be writing letters and packing the boxes that will be shipped, so monetary donations as well as the listed items will be much appreciated.

Missions Report: Sue Smith mentioned that HUMC has been contacted a couple of times by the Homer Village this spring regarding aluminum cans blowing out of the cart and into the ball diamond and northern farm field. Sue said she was unaware that cans had blown that far as any she finds in the area are picked up and hauled away. The problem arises when the cart is full and the winds pick up and blows them off the top of the cart, so she will try to make sure the cart is emptied before it gets full. At this time the cans are picked up once a month and delivered to the Advantage Recycling in Danville. The funds are used 100% for the Heritage grade school milk program for low income families. Discussion about upgrading the cart followed.

Volunteers are greatly needed to assist with the collection and delivery of these cans, and the cart could do with a face lift, or be replaced with a sturdier model with some sort of easy-open cover. Sue will be working on a new sign indicating all funds are staying local at the school.

Julie Katterhenry gave an update on the approaching annual HUMC chicken noodle dinner. All is going well and the committee is staying within budget. A variety of pies is planned for dessert along with the traditional chicken noodle fare of green beans, salads, and Dave Wingate's famous rolls.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Teri went over the upcoming events for April, May and June. The women's bible study by Beth Moore, *David- Seeking a Heart Like His-* is going well. Using one of the themes from a recent lesson of this study, Pastor Teri asked the council, "What will your life-lesson be?" She challenged the council to consider what their life teaches others. As Christians, will our lives be seen as a life lived full of faith in Christ? She asked the group to reflect on how our life speaks our faith to others, and to go live it out well.

New business: Before closing, Shawn White requested that the graduate recognition Sunday be changed. With only a few graduating high school seniors and her daughter being one of them, Teagan would be unable to attend the June date. Discussion followed and the graduate recognition Sunday date was changed to May 28.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Smith in place of Mary Preston.



ushers & greeters

Ushers:

- May 7 & 14 Kent Krukewitt and Kurt Sexton
May 21 Danny Hoth and Bruce Barnes
May 28 Bruce Barnes and Volunteer

Greeters:

- May 7 Kristin, Mady, and Lane Sexton
May 14 Sue Jones
May 21 Meredith Riegel and Rene Hudson
May 28 Mary Kay Anderson and Katie Woodmansee

Acolytes: Volunteers

Sunday Morning Fellowship Schedule

- May 7 Meredith Riegel
May 14 Susie Mohr
May 21 Tatman
May 28 Volunteer Needed



Altar flowers are a great way of remembering or honoring a loved one. Please consider providing fresh flowers one week. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.



Altar Flowers



Our ancestors gave us a gift of a church more than 100 years ago! Because of their generosity, that gift is still alive, vital, and functioning. Do you want to pass that same gift on to your children and grandchildren? One of the best things any of us can do is to remember our church when we write our wills. It can mean everything to a future generation. Please remember your church in your will!

Please consider receiving the newsletter electronically. The electronic version has colorful pictures, searchable text, and a full index. By switching to the electronic version of the newsletter, you can save the church postage and copier costs each month. Please contact the office to make the change.



The newsletter deadline for the June edition will be May 23. Send articles to Becci Powers at humcnews@gmail.com.



May 2017 Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Girl Scouts, 6:00	2 Cub Scouts, 6:30 Boy Scouts, 7:00	3 Bible Study, 7:00	4 4H, 6:30	5	6
7	8	9 Cub Scouts, 6:30 Boy Scouts, 7:00	10 Bible Study, 7:00	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15 Girl Scouts, 6:00	16 Cub Scouts, 6:30 Boy Scouts, 7:00	17	18 Ad Council, 7:00	19	20 Fellowship Hall Reserved
21 TCO Service Fellowship Hall Reserved	22	23 Cub Scouts, 6:30 Boy Scouts, 7:00 Newsletter Deadline	24	25 Trustees, 7:30	26	27
28 Graduate Recognition Kitchen Reserved	29 Kitchen Reserved Memorial Day	30	31			

May 2017 Celebrations



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Evan Webb	2 Willa Tatman	3	4 Jana Brown	5 Becky Osgood	6 Maxine Umbarger Kristin Sexton Weston Moss
7	8 Brent Pruitt Joel Pruitt	9 Lynn Carrington Kenny & Sue Jones	10 Kimberly Hays	11	12	13 Finley Hubert
14	15	16 Teagan Townsend	17	18 Jeff & Bonnie Taylor	19	20 Dan Eldridge
21 Kurt & Kristin Sexton	22 Jeanine Tatman	23	24 Justin and Cori Minick	25	26	27
28 Bill Davis Rich & Gina Wilson	29 Rachel Smith	30 Julie Brown	31			

**Homer United Methodist Church
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