

The Messenger

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

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July and August 2010

Dreaming Dreams

Pastor Doug Ralston

“I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.” Joel 2:28

What are our dreams for Good Shepherd? It's the kind of question that is asked every so



often and typically we answer it in generalities. Sometimes vision teams or focus groups are formed to ask and then answer the question. The answers never seem to change. We dream of more young families joining

our congregation. We dream of a time when our sanctuary is full for our weekly worship. We dream of having no shortage of funding. Dreaming can be an enjoyable pastime, but in order to dream we have to be asleep. If we are asleep who will make straight the path so that the dreams can become reality?

I believe in dreaming dreams, that is to say I believe in visioning the future, much in the same way that I believe in prayer. We pray for healing, for strength, for clarity, for solutions, and for peace. It is good for us to pray, but if we then sit back, do nothing, and wait for God to take action on our laundry list of desired outcomes we have, in my opinion, not done our part in the answering of our prayers. Prayer is a conversation between the Divine and us. It is during that conversation that we are brought to

an understanding of what it is that we must do. God's grace goes before us and the Spirit walks with us, but we must fully participate with God by acting on those things that have been revealed to us in prayer.

Dreaming or visioning is much the same. If all we do is dream, the dream will not materialize. Over the many years, that has been the consistent outcome. However, if after we awaken from our dreams, we determine what it will require for the dream to become reality, take those required steps, and remove any barriers blocking the dream then what we have dreamed is what we will have.

Summertime is a great time to dream. I want to talk to you about what your dreams are and I also would like the opportunity to tell you what I am dreaming about. During the next few weeks it is my desire to gather together a few small groups at different times to talk informally about our dreams. They will be our “dream catcher conversations.” Let us share over ice tea and lemonade what we really want our church to be; what we really want to be known for. If you would like to be part of these discussions, please make me aware of your interest.

I am absolutely convinced that Good Shepherd has a bright and promising future, I dream about it on a regular basis.



Wesley's Attic – Part 5

Pastor Doug Ralston

We are coming to the end of our adventure exploring John Wesley's "attic." In this installment and one more we will complete our task. We have found many wonderful things on our fanciful sojourn and this time we find a few more.

In the very top drawer of the chest that sits in the middle of the attic is a jewelry box. Inside, it is divided equally between "personal holiness" and "social holiness." The recognition that Christianity is a matter of both inward paths and outward paths is absolutely essential for us.



As Paul Chilcote explains, "Wesley challenges his reader to a life of Christian wholeness as the fruit of justifying faith. He

characterizes Christianity as a "social religion" in which personal, saving faith is necessarily integrated with social, redemptive action. Life in Christ is both "evangelical and ethical." Wesley's Christianity can be lived through faithfulness to his three great rules found in the *Rules for United Societies*:

First, by doing no harm, by avoiding evil in every kind; especially that which is most generally practiced...

Second, by doing good, by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and as far as possible, to all men; to their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry...



Thirdly, by attending upon all the ordinances of God. Such as are the public worship of God; the ministry of the word, either read or expounded, the Supper of the Lord; private prayer; searching the Scriptures; and fasting, or abstinence.

Certainly these *belong* in a jewelry box. They are teachings to be treasured.

Solid Ground

At the May meeting of the UMW, Holly Fujishige brought information about the Transitional Shelter for the Homeless, Solid Ground. It is now just past its one year anniversary and has learned that in order to capture the available grants it must officially be called a Homeless Shelter. It offers to residents of Macomb the opportunity to stay together as a family during a time when resources must be acquired so the family can live again on their own. The shelter also has provided shelter to some seniors when in need. There is space for a maximum number of 40 but due to the layout of the bedrooms the number sheltered is often less.

How to help:

1. If you shop Kroger or Meijer you can designate a percentage of your purchase come to Solid Ground. All you need is a Kroger Plus or Meijer 1 card (available on their websites or, for Kroger, in the store. The six digit # you need for Meijer is 583125 and the Code number for Kroger is #90331.
2. "What If ..." Campaign- asks that each of us gives just \$2.50 a week (\$10 a month) to feed, house and provide life skills training for the residents.
3. Contribute to the Wish List- Needs include: Laundry detergent, fabric softener, cleaning supplies, Kleenex, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, shampoo, diapers, coffee, tea, juices, juice boxes, toilet paper, napkins, garbage bags, bus tickets, and gift cards for gasoline.
4. Volunteer there in roles including meal provision, receptionist and childcare. (Talk to me, I am a Solid Ground Volunteer).

For more information go to www.solidgroundinc.org
Karen Arendall

God's Community Garden

Year two of the garden has brought us insight about how wet an area was chosen for this Good Shepherd garden. Thanks to the efforts of Dale Cosner and Bill Arendall the soil now has been raised with two pick up trucks of topsoil and compost. There are also pledges as to providing more regular weeding and watering, if needed.

Dale and I planted seeds and plants: tomatoes, beans, onions, carrots, corn, cucumbers, yellow squash and zucchini. Thank you Heather for the tomato plants. We have had trouble with transplant shock, cut worms, lack of rain and rabbits. The squash and beans have now been replanted and the plan is to place a rabbit fence around the entire garden.

We have learned that Trinity UMC has a garden this year and their model is to provide garden sections for those in the community to plant. The model we used last year and this year is to grow the vegetables, and then give away to the community. Apparently First UMC is considering also doing a community garden and will be visiting Trinity and Good Shepherd as part of developing their vision.

Labor is welcomed but we also wish prayers for nutritious vegetables. Karen Arendall

United Methodist Women

During the months of July and August the women will be on vacation. No meetings are scheduled. There is a School of Christian Mission South in July that Sally is planning on attending. Look for news in September about our Mission Potluck with Trinity United Methodist Women as our guests.

Have a safe and restful summer.

Sally Goodrow,
UMW President

Bishop Keaton's Seat Cover Project

We took a laundry basket full of children's under pants to Annual Conference and came home with 2 boxes of over 50 underpants each for Solid Ground and Lighthouse Outreach in Roseville. Both donations were received with grateful appreciation. So thanks to the generosity of Good Shepherd UMC and many other generous congregations in our Annual Conference. And thanks Bishop Keaton for a great idea!

Roxann Kohler, Outreach Coordinator



**We need your help in
collecting items for our
Attic Treasures Sale
Saturday ~ October 2, 2010**

We will be accepting all items, *except clothes and shoes*. Start now to collect from friends and family. It is an excellent time to start cleaning closets, basements and garages!!! Items may be brought to the church some time in August (we will let you know later the exact date).

Please make sure all items are clean and in good condition.

Suggested items:

books	purses
jewelry	tools
household goods	furniture
good linens	toys & games.

Flyers will be available to pass on to friends and family. All of us (men, women and children) are needed to work together to make this fundraiser for Good Shepherd successful.

Questions: Contact Carol Money at 586-465-2247 or email: smoney@ameritech.net



Birthdays and Anniversaries

July Birthdays

- 2 – Sherie Heath
Richard Tavana
- 6 – Frances Carpenter
- 9 – Diana Finner
- 11 – Carroll Urquhart
- 12 – Tiffany Finner
- 15 – Sharon Ralston
- 16 – Sabrina Mold
- 17 – Carl Arendall
- 19 – Colleen Stalker
Nick Kohler
- 21 – Linda Liebaert
- 23 – Wanda Parrish
- 25 – Val Morgan
- 26 – Karen Gorecki
- 28 – Mark Liebaert
- 30 – Brandon Johnson

No July Anniversaries

August Birthdays

- 9 – Mike Santoro
- 12 – Karen Gallagher
April Phoenix
- 16 – Ruth Flynn
- 18 – Jesse Trevino
- 22 – Martha King
- 25 – Beverly Baxter
- 27 – Bruce Phoenix
- 28 – Lance Finner
Shirley Klug
Derek Mrowczynski
- 29 – Trevor Mrowczynski
- 31 – Ann Fitzpatrick

August Anniversaries

- 8 – Karen & Bill Arendall
- 21 – Carol & Shelby Money
- 22 – Karen & Michael Meyers
- 27 – Kathryn & Anthony Kozlinski



Lil's Kitchen Korner....

Oatmeal Cake

- 2 1/2 cups boiling water
 - 1 1/2 cups quick oats
- Pour boiling water over oats and let stand 20 minutes

Add:

- 1 1/2 cups shortening (use butter for best taste) or oleo
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 t cinnamon
- 1 1/2 t baking soda
- 1 1/2 cups flour

Mix oats to rest of ingredients and bake 40 minutes at 350° in a 9" or 10" square pan or small oblong pan. (Grease and lightly dust pan with flour.)

Frosting

- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 3/4 stick oleo
- 3/4 cup pet milk

Bring to boil in a sauce pan for 3 minutes and remove from heat.

Add:

- 1 t vanilla
- 1 cup Angel flake coconut

Mix well and pour over cake.

Recipe submitted by Alana Atherton. (Alana's Aunt Fanny's recipe.)

Special Music Needed

Invite friends to participate in July or August.

Singing or playing instruments.

Groups – Children – Youth

Sign up sheet in on the bulletin board across from the secretary's office.

Norma Stalker

July & August Calendars

Thursday, July 01, 2010

VBS - SonQuest Rainforest 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Friday, July 02, 2010

VBS - SonQuest Rainforest 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday, July 04, 2010 - Independence Day

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Tuesday, July 06, 2010

Finance Meeting 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Wednesday, July 07, 2010

Church Council Meeting 7:00 PM

Thursday, July 08, 2010

SCS Players Board Meeting 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday, July 11, 2010

UMM Breakfast & Meeting 8:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, July 12, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Sunday, July 18, 2010

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, July 19, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM

Sunday, July 25, 2010

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, July 26, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Sunday, August 01, 2010

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, August 02, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 03, 2010

Finance Meeting 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday, August 08, 2010

UMM Breakfast & Meeting 8:00 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, August 09, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Thursday, August 12, 2010

SCS Players Board Meeting 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday, August 15, 2010 - Messenger Deadline

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, August 16, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM

Sunday, August 22, 2010

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, August 23, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Sunday, August 29, 2010

5th Sunday Youth Worship Service 10:30 AM

Jr. Church 10:45 AM

Monday, August 30, 2010

Youth Group Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 31, 2010

Finance Meeting 7:30 PM

For additions or deletions to the July and August calendars, please visit Good Shepherd's Website:

www.scsgoodshepherd.org

or check the calendars posted across from the secretary's office.