

# ***BELIEVE...BELONG...SERVE...***

*Serving Parkwood for 51 years*



*Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"*

*Mark 1.14-15*

The Newsletter of Parkwood United Methodist Church



**June , 2013**

## **The Fall**

Father's day is coming up and I'm excited to celebrate my second one since little Cameron came onto the scene. I love being a dad. Nothing can compare to seeing lil' guy's face light up when I come into the room or the first time he said, "I love you!" But the hardest part of the job so far has been watching my child fall. As he learned to crawl the stumbles were small. Then he started to walk and tripping over his feet would lead to Cameron on his stomach crying. Some of the most recent falls come from his new 'big boy' bed in the middle of the night. The loud thump that's made as he hits the ground will wake me from the deepest sleep and the cry that follows breaks my heart. The other day I witnessed the worst fall...a fall down the stairs. Mom and I feared it and we've put up gates to protect him from it. Who would've known it could happen with me two steps in front of him. In a matter of seconds one foot went down the wrong way and in a blink of an eye he was rolling down the steps. It was a miracle that I placed my arm down at the right time and watched him, quite literally, roll into my arms where I embraced him as he cried. He is absolutely fine. I didn't even see a bruise on him, but the image of him falling is burned into my brain.

It's easier to understand that humanity's disobedience and sin is characterized by a fall. A fall hurts us, bruises us, and, if far enough, can claim our life. Sin makes us less than perfect, bruising our character, hurting our ability to forgive others and love like we should. Because of it death entered a world it was never meant to. Sadly, I've heard some preachers proclaim that sin and disobedience makes us look like garbage to

the God who created us, an abomination in his sight and despicable. But we leave the part out about him being our father. And any father who watches a child fall does not do so with delight or with a smile upon his face. That's the definition, even amongst us imperfect people, of a terrible father who needs a visit from child protection. No, the moment a father sees the child even begin to stumble, he gets into position to catch them, to allow the child to fall into the comfort of his arms so that he can hold them close and tell them everything is going to be alright, even if the child has a hard time understanding. God is not at the bottom of the steps watching us roll down. God is a step or two below us so that, if we fall, he'll be the first to catch us and teach us so that our footing is surer the next time we climb.

God expects great things from us because that is what he created us for. He has lofty expectations, but he never said he would abandon us when we stumbled. His Son on the cross is proof that our God has always been just a couple of steps in front of us during this journey of life. So when we stumble, gossiping about another member, tearing down instead of building up someone we love, or any other action that proves us less than perfect, God does not leave us to our ways or discard us. God's ready to catch us once more and stand us back on our feet. God continues to walk a few steps in front of us with our little hand in his; leading us like a toddler down the stairs where he wants us to go.

Pastor Nathan

## **SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### **The Seekers Class**

The Seekers will be studying the book of Genesis using the Immersion series.

### **the Jacob Class**

the Jacob class will begin a study of the book of Acts. There is no study book other than your Bible and, if you want one, a commentary of your choice. The class will start promptly at 9:30 am. the Jacob class meets in room 1.

## **Make Every Day Count: Youth Sunday School**

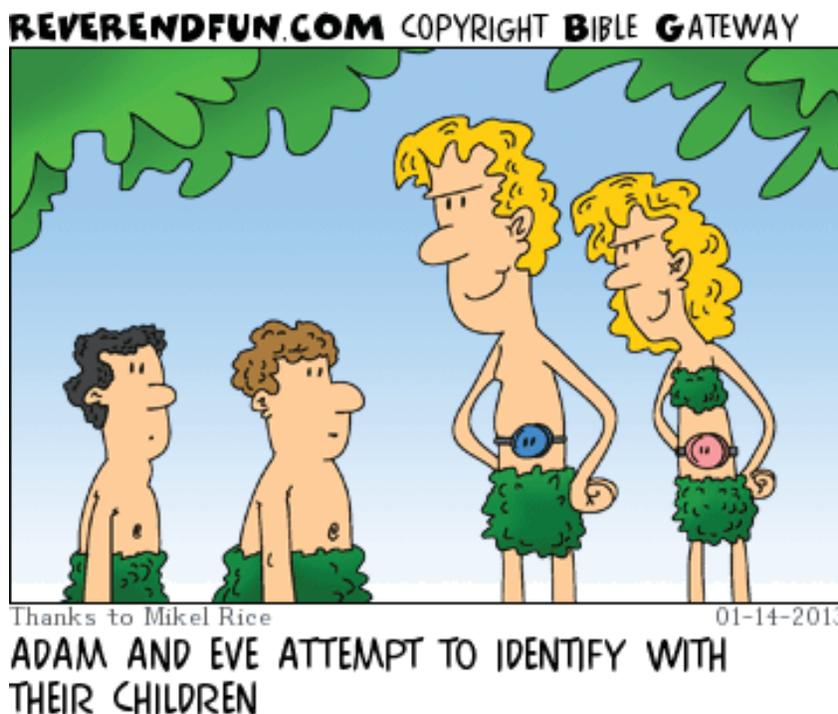
Attention, Youth. We've started a new study just for you called Make Every Day Count. This study talks about ways that you can make each day count whether it is a peaceful day or a sour day, a grateful day or a stressed out day. This study is written by Max Lucado, a minister from San Antonio, Texas. There is a book that might be available but we will discuss the points he makes and some questions that have been prepared just for young people. The end of each chapter has a Daylifter page that will give you something to think about and take with you as you start your week.

## WHY? Making Sense of God's Will

"When the ground shakes, and a poor nation's economy is destroyed; when the waters rise, washing away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect and abuse; when violence tears apart nations; where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to infest his creation? When we lift our prayers to God, and no answer seems to come; when we earnestly seek to know the will of God for our lives, yet can't seem to discern it; when God seems far away; where is God? If God counts the hairs on our head, and knows every sparrow that falls, why is finding and understanding God's will so difficult at times? In *Why? Making Sense of God's Will* best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, Hamilton addresses how we can comprehend God's plan for the world and ourselves. Chapters include: 1. Why Do the Innocent Suffer? 2. Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered? 3. Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life? 4. Why God's Love Prevails."

*WHY?*, begins Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

*WHY?*, begins Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 am.





Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the Leadership Team, Finance Team and Property Management Team, we would like to request your support for an updated Parkwood United Methodist Church sign. All three teams voted unanimously to support this endeavor.

Bob Newlin has done due diligence to determine the best digital sign for our church dollars. Jimmy Layman has volunteered to incorporate the new sign into our current base. An electrician will be required to connect the new sign.

The great advantage of this sign, would be to inform all that pass our church of activities and special services that are taking place. The updated sign may spark an interest in those that pass our church to want to come and see what all we are doing. With this sign, it is assured that our special services such as those during Holy Week and Advent will have increased attendance.

Over the past two years, our expenses have been kept down while our giving has gradually increased. In most months, the general fund's income has exceeded the expenses. In addition, one of the expenses of the general funds has been to move funds into a reserve for major projects and repairs. The result of these changes is money is available to pay for the sign. However, the church leadership felt many in the congregation would like to participate in updating the sign. With these donations, we could keep our financial reserve levels high for future needs and projects. The cost of updating the sign is between \$10,000 and \$11,000.

If you would like to make a donation to update our church sign, please write a check to Parkwood United Methodist Church with Sign Donation on the FOR line or cash with Sign Donation written with it. You can make a donation in someone's honor or memory too. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

Your leadership team members envision the updated sign as an outreach of PUMC so that we can more effectively share our services with the community.

Please call Bob Newlin (919-361-2683), Frank Stephans (919-493-1598), Eddie Hanson (919-361-1136) or me (919-544-0282) with questions.

Blessings,  
Ann Farmer  
Trustee Chair

## To Our Congregation

Bob Newlin

*In reviewing our communication with you about the cost of the updated church sign, we wanted to be sure that you understand that we do have the funds to update the sign.*

Over the last two years, as I indicated in a previous email, our expenses have been kept down and our giving has gradually increased. Most months the income to the general fund has exceeded the expenses. In addition, one of the expenses of the general fund has been to move funds into a reserve for major projects and repairs. (With the change in pastors, we made substantial repairs to the parsonage without having to take a special offering.) The result of these changes means that there is money available to pay for the sign. However, the church leadership felt that many in the congregation would like to participate in purchase of the sign which could also keep the level of our reserves high for future needs and projects.

The leadership team sees the sign as an outreach of PUMC so that we can more effectively share our services with the community.



**Sunday, June 23, 2013**



is the date of our

**Salad, Sandwich and Dessert Luncheon**

right after church services

Put it on your calendar now!

I think this will be a fun event. Let's be creative and bring some new items in addition to our old favorites. I will be putting a sign up sheet in the hall to make sure we don't have 4 chicken salads. Please let us know what you will be bringing.

Thanks, Betty, Marie and Betsy



# *Knit - Pur1 - Pray*

Parkwood United Methodist Church

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. Saturday

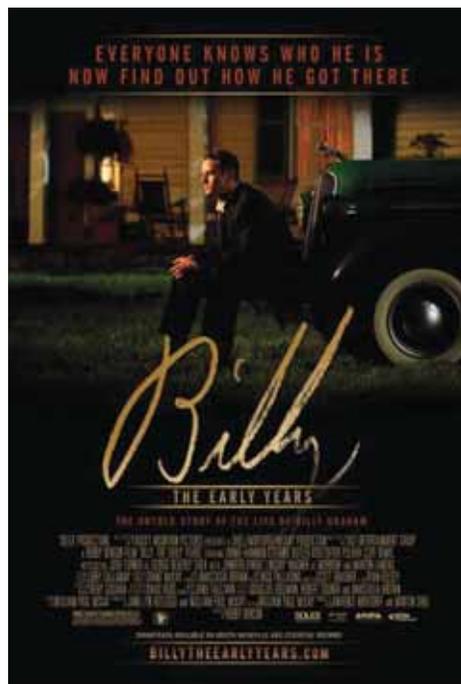


If you are an experienced knitter/crochet, beginner or a novice; you are welcome. We all have our own level of expertise and love to share

## Friday Nite Movie Presents

**Billy, The Early Years**

**The beginning of the ministry of Billy Graham.**



**Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm**

## Previews of Coming Attractions\*

July 12	True Grit	1969	John Wayne, Kim Darby
Aug. 2	To Sir With Love	1967	Sidney Poitier, Judy Green
Sept. 6	The Preachers Wife	1996	Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston
Oct. 4	Dam Yankees	1958	Tab Hunter, Gwen Verden
Nov. 1	Captains Courageous	1937	Spencer Tracy, Freddie Bartholomew
Dec. 6			

\*subject to change



**UM MEN: We will meet for breakfast at 8am on Saturday, June 15 th at Beneties on Hwy. 55 at 8:00.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU**



### Birthdays

Ron Byrd 6-2  
Marie Porter 6-2  
Ryan Clark 6-6  
Danielle Slomberg 6-7  
Robyn Willson 6-10  
Sara Gunter 6-11  
Hope Roberts 6-15  
Bob Newlin 6-16  
Florine Layman 6-21  
Dena Roberts 6-27

### Anniversaries

Nathan & Peggy Moore 6-6  
Tapani Ronni & Monica Eiland 6-8  
Bon & Margaret Eiland 6-21  
Jimmy & Florine Layman 6-21  
Clint & Natalie Robson 6-22  
Ron & Susan Clark 6-23  
Clyde & Priscilla Thompson 6-25  
Ron & Betty Byrd 6-27  
Jim & Judy Roseberry 6-29

Send birthdays and anniversaries to [crabbyron@yahoo.com](mailto:crabbyron@yahoo.com)



## May 1 Say!

By Dr. J. Vernon McGee

### Q: Can One Get Too Familiar With Jesus?

I do not like these names that are being adopted by little groups today that they are “friends” of Jesus or “brothers” of Jesus. Someone is sure to argue, “But it’s used in Scripture!” Yes, but it’s used in Scripture in a very reverent sort of way. You know there is an idea today that somehow or another when we see the Lord Jesus someday we’re going to be very familiar with Him. I heard a preacher of a certain persuasion one night make this statement: “When I get into the presence of the Lord Jesus I’m going to rush right up to him, I’m going to pat Him on the back, and thank Him>” Well I don’t think that you’re going to pat Him on the back, friends! The thing is that we’re told when we come into the presence of the Lord Jesus He is *God*, and He is the mediator between God and man. When you come there, you come reverently. And I think today that there is this overzealous idea of trying to bring Jesus down into the crowd. Well, you can’t bring Him down into the crowd; if you do, you are wrong. What He wants to do is *bring you* up out of the crowd and make you one of His!



*United Methodist Women*

The Parkwood UMW met on Thursday evening at PUMC. Vice President Pam Skidmore welcomed those attending and introduced our guests from Abundant Joy: Center for Women’s Ministries. Beth A. Benham, Director, and Loni Gunn came to share information about Abundant Joy. They have been organizing and working in Durham since October 2012. Their purpose is to offer confidential, spiritual, emotional, and relational support to women eighteen or above who are experiencing crises or transition in their lives. The volunteers at Abundant Joy are not professional counselors, but they do go through training programs. If necessary, they do have links to professional counselors. Their services include peer counseling, support groups, study groups, and prayer support. Contact information and ways to help or use the services of Abundant Joy will be posted on the UMW bulletin board.

After the program, we enjoyed refreshments provided by Florine Layman. During the business session we received minutes from the last meeting and the treasurer’s report. Treasurer Pat Nestler brought our supply of Gift to Mission cards including birthday, thinking of you, congratulations, and several other types. When these

cards are purchased, a gift of \$5.00 is forwarded to the district treasurer for mission work. These cards may be purchased from Pat.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, June 27. In lieu of a regular program Jan Schwarze will be leading a workshop on making prayer bracelets. Supplies have been purchased. If you are interested, please plan to attend!!!

## *Cub Scout Pack 495*

David Bailey, Cubmaster of Pack 495, has earned his "Wood Badge", the highest level of training a scout leader can get. He is the third leader of the pack to get their Wood Badge in the pack in three years. This is a very special accomplishment since most Troops and Packs do not have any leaders that are trained at this level!

This is a special occasion to appreciate the hard work that the pack leaders had done to keep Pack 495 one of the best packs in Durham!



Believe.....Belong.....Serve... is usually published on the 30th of the month.  
Please have all newsletter information to Ron Byrd at [crabbyron@yahoo.com](mailto:crabbyron@yahoo.com)  
By the 25th of the month.

LORD'S DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
						<b>1</b> 7 RTP Fellowship
<b>2</b> 8:30 Trustees 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7 5-7 UMYF	<b>3</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>4</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>5</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>6</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>7</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 The Friday Nite Movie presents: "Billy: The Early Years"	<b>8</b> 9-11 Knit, Purl, Pray 7 RTP Fellowship
<b>9</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12 Finance 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	<b>10</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>11</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5	<b>12</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise NC Annual Conference	<b>13</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6 NC Annual Conference	<b>14</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise NC Annual Conference	<b>15</b> 7 RTP Fellowship NC Annual Conference
<b>16</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Father's Day Service 12 Leadership 3-5 GS Rms 5,7 5-7:00 UMYF	<b>17</b> 8:30-12 VBS 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>18</b> 8:30 - 12 VBS 5:30-6:30 GS R5 6:30 "Why?" Study	<b>19</b> 8:30 - 12 VBS 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>20</b> 8:30 - 12 VBS 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>21</b> 8:30 - 12 VBS 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>22</b> 9-11 Knit, Purl, Pray 7 RTP Fellowship
<b>23</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	<b>24</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>25</b> 5:30-6:30 GS R5 6:30 "Why?" Study	<b>26</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>27</b> 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	<b>28</b> 9:30 Senior Exercise	<b>29</b> 7 RTP Fellowship
<b>30</b> 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7				Parkwood United Methodist Church	<b>June</b>	<b>2013</b>

<b>TASK</b>	<b>JUNE 2</b>	<b>JUNE 9</b>	<b>JUNE 16</b>	<b>JUNE 23</b>	<b>JUNE 30</b>
<b>9:15 Greeters</b>	Margaret Eiland	Ron & Betty Byrd	Marie Porter	Herb & Jan Schwarze	Jimmy & Florine Layman
<b>10:45 Greeters</b>	Ron & Betty Byrd	Lauren & Andrew Key	Betsy Newlin & Priscilla Thompson	Ron & Susan Clark	Wayne Abbott and Florine Layman
<b>Infant Nursery</b>	Dianne Mitchell	Dena Roberts	Betty Byrd	Ron Clark	Dianne Mitchell
<b>Ushers</b>	Ron & Betty Byrd	David Thompson and Andrew Key	Ron & Susan Clark	Clint & Natalie Robson	Ron & Betty Byrd
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Pat Nestler	Priscilla Thompson	Charlotte Thompson	Marietta Abbott	Florine Layman
<b>Communion Set-Up</b>	Bev Whitmore and Betty Whitaker				
<b>Altar Flowers</b>		Peggy & Nathan Moore	Bob & Betsy Newlin	Marge Potter	
<b>Member Care Cards</b>	Pat Nestler	Jan Schwarze	Margaret Eiland	Betty Byrd	Pat Nestler
<b>Counters</b>	Roger Jarrell and Ann Farmer	Ann Farmer and Frank Stephans	Frank Stephans and Isaiah Lincoln	Isaiah Lincoln and Herb Schwarze	Herb Schwarze & Margaret Eiland
<b>FT &amp; Lection Reader</b>	Peggy Moore	Marie Porter	Charlotte Thompson	Lauren Key	Jan Schwarze
<b>Fellowship Refreshments</b>	Betsy Newlin	Dena Roberts	Debbie Kavanaugh	Pam Skidmore	Derek and Bethany Conver
<b>Office Help</b>	Marietta Abbott	Jan Schwarze	Peggy Moore	Andrew Key	Margaret Eiland
<b>Lead Armor Bearer</b>	Tiffany Jackson	Caroline Mitchell	Hope Roberts	Beth Bradshaw	Tiffany Jackson

**MINISTRY TEAM FOR JUNE 2013** \*If you can't serve on your day, please arrange for a substitute. Thanks