



BELIEVE...BELONG...SERVE...

Serving Parkwood for 51years



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

May, 2013

Signs of Fruitfulness

The numbers game. I'm not a fan of numbers, but our conference asks for a few numbers every quarter. They want to know how many are in church every Sunday and they want to know how many professions of faith we have had. I'm not a fan of numbers, but the hard truth is that there are no concrete ways to measure how the members of our congregation are growing spiritually or going on to perfection. There is no magical device or equation that can determine the state of one's soul. So we play the numbers game because, even though attendance and professions of faith do not give the most

accurate depiction of our church's state spiritually, they do show signs of our fruitfulness. Are members inspired by the word enough to go out and invite in others? Are visitors noticing the energy in worship and wanting to become more connected? These types of questions can begin being answered by the numbers.

So here we are, ready to play the numbers game, but be not dismayed! I come to you with glad tidings. What do the numbers show about our fruitfulness? I am so very happy to report! For the first quarter of last year our attendance averaged sixty-one people a Sunday. For the first quarter of this year our attendance averaged seventy-four people a Sunday. Especially exciting is our average worship attendance for March. Last year, the attendance in March averaged sixty-four. This year we averaged eighty. Wow! And even if you take in consideration that Easter and Holy Week were in April last year, April's average attendance last year was only sixty-eight. As far as attendance is concerned, we are seeing fruit. Add to that the fact that we have recently accepted new members into the family with several more are seeking to join down the road, and we have much to celebrate.

May this good news give you hope, but receive it with a challenge, also. As summer is just around the corner and school is wrapping up, the nice weather and fun summer time activities can often have a stronger lure than worship on Sunday morning. Therefore, I challenge you this June to a month of perfect attendance. Do you have vacation planned? Do not worry. You can still be a part of this challenge. All you have to do is attend a church where you're vacationing. I'll trust you if you say you did, but if you feel that's not enough, just bring a bulletin back with you from the place you worshipped. I love seeing other church's bulletins as many have some great ideas. Now, since another area of growth for us is professions of faith, I've decided to have two challenges in June. June will also be the month to bring a friend. I encourage you to be bold and seek out those around you that are friends, that you work with, or those who are family members, and invite someone who may not have

been to church before. But I also am just fine with you bringing a veteran worship goer, too. So, in the month of June if someone is out vacationing, our friends we bring can keep their seats warm.

June is the month of bring a friend and the month of perfect attendance. We're not playing the numbers game. We are seeking to grow in our faith in worship and we are putting that faith into action as we invite others to experience the love of Jesus Christ and the love of our members. If you feel the Spirit at work in our church and if you believe we are in exciting times, use that as your motivation in telling others so that they can enjoy it, too. *Pastor Nathan*

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Seekers Class

The Seekers class will begin a study featuring "The Way" by Adam Hamilton. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall with the other Sunday School classes for the six weeks that it takes to do this study

Please bring your Bibles to class. Sunday school starts at 9:30 am. Feel free to join us at any time.

the Jacob Class

the Jacob class will begin a study featuring "The Way" by Adam Hamilton. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall with the other Sunday School classes for the six weeks that it takes to do this study

Please bring your Bibles to class. Sunday school starts at 9:30 am. Feel free to join us at any time.

Knit – Purl – Pray

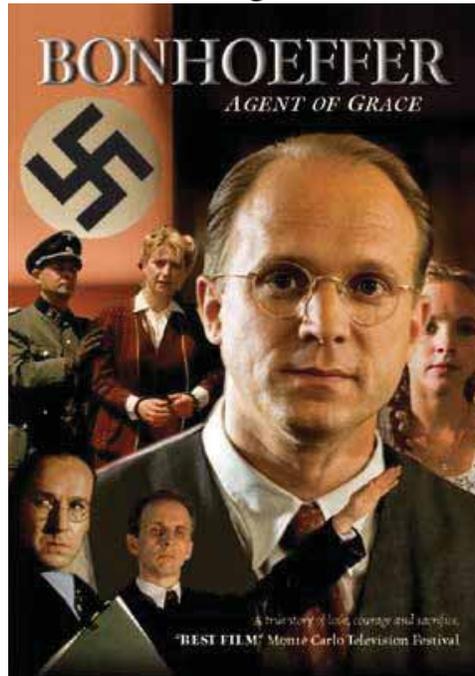


Parkwood United Methodist Church

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

2nd. and 4th. Saturday

The Friday Nite Movie Presents: Bonhoeffer, Agent of Grace



May 3rd, 2013 @ 7:30 pm

Previews of Coming Attractions*

June 7	Billy: The Early Years	2008	Armie Hammer, Stefanie Butler
July 5	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	Damn Yankees	1958	Tab Hunter, Gwen Verden
Nov. 1	Captains Courageous	1937	Spencer Tracy, Freddie Bartholomew
Dec. 6	Polar Express	2004	Tom Hanks, Chris Coppola

*subject to change

What's Your Favorite Movie of all Time????

Let us know and we'll see if we can track it down and show it!

Send favorites to: crabbyron@yahoo.com



UM MEN: We will meet for breakfast at 8am on Saturday, May 18th at Beneties on Hwy. 55 at 8:00.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU



Birthdays

Allison Mitchell 5-3
Khalid Akkari 5-6
Nathan Wittman 5-8
Wayne Abbott 5-9
Tom Ronni 5-18
Merle Minor 5-26
Amy Cotter 5-30
Pricilla Thompson 5-30
Maureen Mitchel 5-31

Anniversaries

Merle & Peggy Minor 5-1
Bill & Debbie Kavanaugh 5-4
Olly & Deena Roberts 5-18
Nathan & Laura Wittman 5-23
Andrew and Lauren Key 5-26

Send birthdays and anniversaries to crabbyron@yahoo.com



You are cordially invited to join the Chancel Choir at Parkwood United Methodist Church. The choir meets weekly on Wednesday nights from

7:30





May I Say!

By Dr. J. Vernon McGee

Cleansed for Service

“And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water” (Leviticus 8:6)

Moses brings Aaron and his sons to the laver for washing. He gives them a bath, if you please. This signifies that they are to be holy, pure, and clean if they are to serve the Lord. They have already been to the altar for forgiveness, but they need cleansing.

A great many people today say that they are qualified for service because they are saved. Now it is true that salvation is the prime requisite, but for service one must also be cleansed. You must be cleansed to be used! Listen to these verses from Scripture:

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. (Titus 3:5)

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (Hebrews 10:22)

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. (Ephesians 5:26)

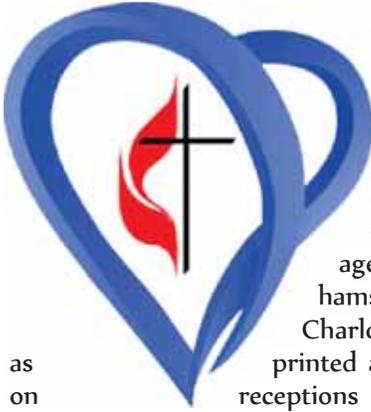
Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all (John 13:10)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

The Holy Ghost renews us as we go along, but we need a washing from the Lord. With what does He wash us? What is the cleansing agent? It is the Word of God. That is what cleanses us. The Lord said that His disciples needed to be washed because their feet were dirty. They all had a bath; that is, they all had been saved (except Judas), but they still needed their feet washed so that they might have fellowship with Him. This cleansing is for service.

How do we get that washing? It is by confession that we are forgiven and cleansed. Do you want to be used of God? Then go confess your sins, dear Christian. That is the first step. This is God's way. This is the first step. This is God's way. This is His command. We either must do it His way or we cannot be of service. He has His way of doing things and we need to learn and obey His ways. May God richly Bless you my beloved.





United Methodist Women

Parkwood UMW met on Saturday, April 20, 2013, at PUMC. President Susan Oglesby called the meeting to order. She asked that we “Think Green,” and place any unused agendas and other handouts in a pile to be shredded for recycling or perhaps used in hamster cages. Our business session opened with Florine’s short recap of the March meeting. Charlotte presented the treasurer’s report. The minutes and treasurer’s report were accepted printed and distributed by email. Continuing with old business Jan reported that the committee on receptions is in the process of gathering information concerning the cost of the items generally served. Jan also bought a prayer bracelet and we decided to use the June 27 meeting as the workshop for making the bracelets. Completed bracelets will also contain a printed guide to explain the meaning of each bead and how to use them in prayer. Jan also shared some information on items needed at UMD that are not on the regular food list. There is, however, a continuing need for food, and the members voted to send a donation designated for the purchase of food. The next item of business was a discussion of our participation in the May 11 Parkwood Flea Market. We adopted suggested price and packaging guidelines. Work schedules and a sheet listing items donated were passed around. They are posted on the UMW bulletin board and there is room to volunteer to work as well as donate baked goods. At this point we took a short break to enjoy the refreshments provided by Hollis and Judy. Susan began our program with prayer. In addition to those in our church family with needs, we remembered the victims and families and all those whose lives were changed by the events at the Boston Marathon. Our special guest for this meeting was Susan Rayles, President of the Corridor District. She shared some background on her journey to becoming Corridor District president. She presented some information on the upcoming mission studies, the Sister to Sister event, and the District Day apart. Flyers on these events can be found on the UMW board or on the corridor District Website, <http://corridorumw.org/> She also shared information about the “For all the Saints” that will be a part of the annual conference meeting of UMW. Our treasurer will have more information about this. There is also a mission trip to the Wesley Community Center in Savannah, GA in September. Spaces are limited because there is very little housing available. Anyone interested must register by August 15. Susan Rayles announced that our Susan Oglesby has accepted the position of Sub District Leader for south Corridor District. Congratulations and thanks for your service! The remainder of Susan’s remarks related to how we can help include and encourage younger women in their UMW journey.



Susan Rayles
Corridor District UMW President





HELP NEEDED AT URBAN MINISTRIES OF DURHAM

Could you give an hour or two to help those in need here in Durham? Here are some opportunities for helping those who come to Urban Ministries in need of food and clothing.

In addition to the food items we already collect, there is a need for the following items:

Plastic zip-closed bags in sandwich and gallon sizes and tall white kitchen garbage bags.

Laundry soap, toilet tissue, paper towels and hygiene items.

Backpacks, tote bags, duffle bags and small suitcases.

We can also use books, especially for children, but all books are needed.

You could make snack bags of cookies and/or candy for a special treat for our clients. I can take these any Thursday when I go.

I am working on getting people to help sort and stock the clothes closet. This is done in the afternoon and we can decide when we want to go. If you are interested please let me know and I'll add your name to the list and find a time that suits us.

Thank you for your continuing support for Urban Ministries and all the hungry and homeless people of Durham.

Jan Schwarze

MARK YOU CALENDAR

Sunday, May 19

Please join us for another food and fun filled luncheon right after church to celebrate a beautiful spring.

Bring your favorite luncheon dish (meats are always needed) and let's enjoy a meal with our friends.

Good fellowship is guaranteed!



There is now bottled water available for purchase in the refrigerator next to the water fountain in the hallway. Please pay \$1 for the half liter bottles. Proceeds will benefit the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which Nathan uses to help meet the needs of those less fortunate.

Answers to last month's Bible Quiz: It Is Written

1. Amalekites Exodus 17:14
2. Bezalel & Oholiab Exodus 31:1-6 Exodus 39:6, 14, 30
3. His finger, on the ground John 8:6-8
4. Naboth's vineyard 1 Kings 21:7-8, 15
5. Ezekiel and John Ezekiel 3:3 Revelations 10:10
6. Isaiah Isaiah 8:4
7. A land deed Jeremiah 32:10, 14
8. By Persian Pony Express Esther 8:8,10
9. Sennacherib, King of Assyria 2 Kings 19:14-16 Isaiah 37:22,29
10. Job 19:23-24

Bible Quiz for May

The Book of Numbers

1. What was the value of the books of magic burned in Ephesus?
2. How many talents of gold and silver did David provide to Solomon in order to build the Temple in Jerusalem?
3. Among the Israelites, according to Deuteronomy, what was the statute of limitations (after which a suit for return is barred) for debts?
4. What was the total weight of the gold earrings that Gideon collected from the men of Israel in return for freeing them from the hand of Midian?
5. In order to persuade King Ahasuerus to order the destruction of the Jews, how many talents of silver did Haman offer as a bribe?
6. What was the total weight of the gold that Abraham's servant gave to Rebekah when inquiring for the lodging in her father's house?
7. After Moses set up the tabernacle in the wilderness and anointed the altar, the tribal leaders made a dedication offering. What was the combined weight of the gold and silver of the dedication offering?
8. How many talents did the master distribute to his servants in the parable of the talents?
9. How many shekels of silver did Abraham pay to Ephron the Hittite to purchase the cave of Machpelah as a burial place for his wife Sarah?
10. How many pieces of money did Jacob pay to the sons of Hamor for the land in Shechem where he pitched his tent and erected an altar?
11. How many shekels of silver did Jeremiah pay to his cousin Hanamel for the field at Anathoth?
12. How many pieces of silver were paid to Judas to betray Jesus?

It's Coming:

Church Services in the Near Future



PASTOR: Praise the Lord.

CONGREGATION: Hallelujah!



PASTOR: Can we please turn our tablet PC, iPad, cellphone, Kindle Bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon.



PASTOR: Let us pray, committing this week into God's hands. Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook and chat with God.



PASTOR: Please have your credit and debit cards ready as we shall now take tithes and offerings. You can log on to the church Wi-Fi using the password Lord909887. Ushers circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshipers. Those who prefer to make electronic funds transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church and those who prefer to use iPads are allowed to flip them open. Those who prefer telephone banking are allowed to take out their cellphones to transfer their contributions to the church bank account.(The holy atmosphere is truly electric as the cellphones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!)



[Announcement]

SECRETARY: This week's cell meetings shall be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please don't miss out. Thursday's bible teachings will be held live on Skype at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out. You can follow your Pastor on Twitter this weekend for counseling and prayers. God bless you and have a wonderful week! Confessions can be e-mailed to the church secretary's inbox - please limit sins to a maximum of 10 per week (bullet point format please). Penance will be dispensed in a mass e-mail. Automated pre-recorded prayers for atonement are not allowed. Please turn off your SPAM filters, and disable your out-of-office auto-reply.



There will be a special collection offering to upgrade our WiFi service router,..... thus providing a lightning fast direct high speed connection to the big guy upstairs.



The Editor wishes to apologize in advance if this leaves some folks absolutely clueless.

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

TASK	MAY 5	MAY 12	MAY 19	MAY 26
9:15 Greeters	Ron & Betty Byrd	Marie Porter	Herb & Jan Schwarze	Jimmy & Florine Layman
10:45 Greeters	Ron & Susan Clark	Wayne Abbott and Florine Layman	Marie Porter & Charlotte Thompson	David Thompson
Infant Nursery	Dianne Mitchell	Dena Roberts	Betty Byrd	Ron Clark
Ushers	Ron & Betty Byrd	David Thompson and Andrew Key	Clint & Natalie Robson	Ron and Susan Clark
Altar Guild	Marietta Abbott	Florine Layman	Margaret Eiland	Jan Schwarze
Communion Set-Up	Priscilla Thompson & Marietta Abbott			
Altar Flowers	Sara Gunter	Marietta Abbott		Pam & Linnie Skidmore
Member Care Cards	Pat Nestler	Jan Schwarze	Margaret Eiland	Betty Byrd
Counters	Dianne Mitchell and Eddie Hanson	Eddie Hanson and Bob Newlin	Bob Newlin and Ron Byrd	Ron Byrd and Roger Jarrell
FT & Lection Reader	Priscilla Thompson	Ron Byrd	Betty Byrd	Bob Newlin
Fellowship Refreshments	Ann Farmer	Lauren & Andrew Key	Brenda Stephens	Betty Byrd
Office Help	Peggy Moore	Andrew Key	Margaret Eiland	Ron Byrd
Acolytes	Tiffany Jackson	Caroline Mitchell	Hope Roberts	Beth Bradshaw

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

LORD'S DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
			1 9:30 Senior Exercise	2 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	3 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Movie Night	4 7 RTP Fellowship
5 8:30 Trustees 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7 5-7 UMYF	6 9:30 Senior Exercise	7 5:30-6:30 GS R5	8 9:30 Senior Exercise	9 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	10 9:30 Senior Exercise	11 9-11 Knit,Purl,Pray 7 RTP Fellowship
12 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12 Finance 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	13 9:30 Senior Exercise	14 5:30-6:30 GS R5	15 9:30 Senior Exercise	16 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	17 9:30 Senior Exercise	18 7 RTP Fellowship
19 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Graduation Sunday 12 Leadership 3-5 GS Rms 5,7 5-7:00 UMYF	20 9:30 Senior Exercise	21 5:30-6:30 GS R5	22 9:30 Senior Exercise	23 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	24 9:30 Senior Exercise	25 9-11 Knit,Purl,Pray 7 RTP Fellowship
26 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	27 9:30 Senior Exercise	28 5:30-6:30 GS R5	29 9:30 Senior Exercise	30 6-8 Cubs Rm 7 7 Cubs Rms 1,3,4,5,6	31 9:30 Senior Exercise	
				Parkwood United Methodist Church	May	2013