

A Beacon of God to all People

Growing in Christ.....Sharing God's Love..... Reaching Out to the World



Believe.....Belong.....Serve

The Newsletter of the Parkwood United Methodist Church
Proudly serving the Parkwood Community for 55 years

Mark 1: 14-15

November, 2015



Two Ears and One Mouth

“Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry” (James 1:19)

The saying I heard most growing up is that God gave us two ears and one mouth. Obviously, God wanted us to do more listening than talking, then. I totally agree! Our passage from James emphasizes that, too. It is a simple message, yet, especially in our culture, one that needs to be brought up again and again. Some of you may not be familiar with social media, but those who are know that it can sometimes feel like one shouting match of opinions. Hate a candidate? Post a meme that is most likely not true and let the world know they should not vote for them because they are just too evil. Had a fight with a significant other? We all want to hear it! Put it where everyone can see. There was one such incident where a friend posted some pretty hateful things and I, thinking they would want to hear my side, posted a counterpoint. It was deleted because they did not want opposing views on their wall. And now social media applications know this, finding new ways for us to spout opinions without ever worrying about

being corrected or hearing the voice of others. And so the old saying about two ears and one mouth is null and void, because we have ten fingers that can furiously type our words across the internet.

Quick to listen...slow to speak. The problem is that conversations nowadays are not really about listening. Our leaders in Washington and candidates for president are not any help either. Debates have turned from places where we can hear honest dialogue about possible future policies that could transform our nation to shouting matches and simply speaking one's mind. And so, if we are going to heed the sound, simple wisdom of James, we have to change the way we talk to one another. We need a few ground rules to guide us in our listening so that, when we speak, our words are more thoughtful and less likely to anger someone we speak to.

Let us begin with one I am not good at: assuming we know what the other is going to say. My wife and I talk a lot, as any people in a relationship should. However, I often get into trouble often when I finish her sentences. No, not the cute finishing sentence thing where the other goes, "We are of one mind!" No, the finishing of a sentence that frustrates her because, well, I am completely wrong and simply talking over her. We have so many different labels we place on one another in society. We are Republican and Democrat, liberal and conservative, Muslim and Christian, northerner and southerner, Star Trek nerd and Star Wars nerd. Often we let those labels define who we talk to in a way where we have no desire to hear what they say. After all, they are just going to say what we have prejudged them to say. They are liberal. They have nothing I want to hear. They are Republican. They have no idea what our country needs. Sometimes, we never get close to conversation because of these labels. But what if we accepted that we are more than those labels, that the other person can surprise us? What if we were open to being surprised by what the other in our conversation is going to say?

That leads me to my last tip: What if we enter every conversation expecting to be changed by it. Often enough, the reason an argument pops up between friends, couples, or mortal enemies is because we enter it with the intent to change another. It begins with an assumption that our opinion is supreme and the other needs to hear it. Obviously, that means the other's opinion is worthless and need not even be uttered. Christ emphasized the Body over the individual at every turn. We get the feeling that a Christian will always be incomplete without the church, without the other parts of the body. It is a humbling teaching that none of us on our own have all the answers and that the complete picture of God's kingdom does not come into view until the body comes together under the guidance of Christ. James knows that listening is key for us to catch this glimpse of God's rule on earth. We cannot be transformed if we are holding too tightly to the way we 'know' we should be, to the things we 'know' to be right. But if we enter every conversation with another brother and sister with the expectation that we can come away changed, transformation can happen at any moment. We will truly give space to our neighbor to show us a side of life that we cannot know on our own.

And so I leave you with my reflection on James' words of wisdom. "Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry." Ignore the trends of social media that would have us always shouting at one another and embrace holy conversations with Christian brothers and sisters that shows the respect we should with those whose opinions may differ. The more we embrace those truths, perhaps the less we will need to stress about that whole growing angry thing. *Pastor*

Nathan



SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Seekers Class

The Seekers will start "The Trouble with the Truth" by Bob Renfroe.

the Jacob Class

the Jacob class will start the book of Daniel.

THE Jacob class meets at 9:30 in room 1

The Youth Class

At the request of the young ladies in the class, we are starting a new project on November 15. The title is Foundations in Personal Finance and it is geared to high school students. This program is designed to provide young people with the personal financial knowledge and skills needed in the 21st century. Anyone who is interested in participating should join us on November 15 at 9:30 am.



Friday Nite Movie proudly presents
On November 13th



John Wayne & Maureen O'Hara
Show starts at 7:30

Previews of coming Attractions *

Dec. 11 The Christmas Candle 2013 Hans Matheson & Samantha Barks

Coming in December: The 2016 Line Up of Movies

*Subject to Change



Dignitaries who appeared at the Parkwood Trunk or Treat Event
Included 2 Ghost Busters, Wonder Woman and a Teenage
Mutant Ninja Turtle



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU



Birthdays

Tom Schwarze November 5th
Herb Schwarze November 11th
Olly Roberts November 14th
Tapani Ronni November 17^h
Norris Porter November 19th
Ronald Johnson November 24th
Bob Eiland November 27th
Brenda Stephens November 29th

Send birthdays and anniversaries to crabbyron@yahoo.com



When we first met, I had no idea you'd become this important to me.



Luke 8: 2-3



United Methodist Women

October Meeting

Parkwood UMW met on Thursday, October 27, 2015 in the Fellowship Hall at PUMC. Betty Byrd welcomed nine women this month to the meeting. We were short some members because of the State Fair. Members took a few minutes to share joys/health concerns and birthdays. Refreshments were provided by members Laura Meyers.

Our guest speaker was Pat Nestler on "Pledging" and where the funds are allocated. Pat started and ended with a prayer to bless the year pledges that were received.

Items discussed:

Knit Purl Pray will be, again, participating in the Southwest Elementary PTA Craft Fair on November 21st. Please come and look at the items made this year. Do some Christmas shopping while you are looking.

Christmas Project: The UMW are going to do their annual underwear and sock drive this year. It is an important ministry for Urban Ministry. It makes a person with little feel special to receive new underwear or a pair of socks. The boxes will be out under the cross by

November 15th. Please watch for sales Wal-Mart and Roses are good sources for these items. We will have the boxes out until December 31st.

Our next meeting is scheduled for November 19th, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing projects for Christmas. We will be decorating the Chrismon Tree on Saturday, November 28th. All women are invited to participate.

Knit - Purl - Pray

Will Participate in the Southwest Elementary School Bazaar on
Saturday, November 21st.
Southwest Elementary School
9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.



Come see the projects we have created for this fund raiser. We will have many items for Christmas presents. Hope to see you there. Funds earned will go to the UMW mission fund.



Parkwood United Methodist Men

The Parkwood UMM will meet on Saturday morning November 21st for breakfast at Beneties Restaurant in the Greenwood Commons shopping center off Sedwick road at 8:00 am

Knit - Pur! - Pray

Parkwood United Methodist Church



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

2nd. and 4th. 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



You are cordially invited to join the Chancel Choir at Parkwood United Methodist Church. The choir meets weekly on Wednesday nights from 7:30



Having a rough day?

Place your hand over
your heart.
Feel That?
That's called
purpose.
You're alive
for a reason.
DON'T GIVE UP.



Matthew 28: 16-20

LORD'S DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
1 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 All Saints Day Worship 3:00 Charge Conference @ Trinity UMC 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	2 9:30 Senior Exercise	3 5:30-6:30 GS R5	4 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	5 6-8 Cubis Rm 7 7 Cubis Rms 1,3,4,5,6	6 9:30 Senior Exercise	7
8 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	9 9:30 Senior Exercise	10 5:30-6:30 GS R5	11 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	12 6-8 Cubis Rm 7 7 Cubis Rms 1,3,4,5,6	13 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Movie Nile; The Quiet Man	14 9-11 Knit,Puri,Pray
15 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	16 9:30 Senior Exercise	17 5:30-6:30 GS R5	18 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	19 6-8 Cubis Rm 7 7 Cubis Rms 1,3,4,5,6	20 9:30 Senior Exercise	21
22 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	23 9:30 Senior Exercise	24 5:30-6:30 GS R5	25 9:30 Senior Exercise 7:30 Choir	26 6-8 Cubis Rm 7 7 Cubis Rms 1,3,4,5,6 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	27 9:30 Senior Exercise	28 9-11 Knit,Puri,Pray
29 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Hanging of the Greens 3-5 GS Rms 5,7	30 9:30 Senior Exercise					
				Parkwood United Methodist Church	November	2015

TASK	NOVEMBER 1	NOVEMBER 8	NOVEMBER 15	NOVEMBER 22	NOVEMBER 29
9:15 Greeters	Ron & Betty Byrd	Herb & Jan Schwarze	Jimmy & Florine Layman	Marie Porter & David Thompson	Ron & Betty Byrd
10:45 Greeters	Priscilla Thompson & Janie Henderson	Ron & Betty Byrd	Marietta Abbott	Ron & Susan Clark	Charlotte Thompson & David Thompson
Infant Nursery	Marietta Abbott	Dianne Mitchell	Dena Roberts	Marietta Abbott	Dianne Mitchell
Ushers	Frank & Brenda Stephans	Ann Farmer & David Thompson	Ron & Susan Clark	Clint & Natalie Robson	Ron & Betty Byrd
Altar Guild	Charlotte Thompson	Priscilla Thompson	Florine Layman	Marietta Abbott	Jan Schwarze
Communion Set-Up	Pam Skidmore and Priscilla Thompson				
Altar Flowers					
Member Care Cards	Pat Nestler	Jan Schwarze	Betty Byrd	Susan Oglesby	Pat Nestler
Counters	Eddie Hanson & Frank Stephans	Frank Stephans & Herb Schwarze	Herb Schwarze & Ron Clark	Ron Clark & Jan Schwarze	Jan Schwarze & Dianne Mitchell
FT & Lection Reader	Pat Nestler	Ron Byrd	Bob Newlin	Ann Farmer	Linnie Skidmore
Fellowship Refreshments	Jan Schwarze	Ann Farmer	Betty Byrd	Elizabeth Carter	Dena Roberts
Office Help	Ron Byrd	Jan Schwarze	Nathan Wittman	Bob Newlin	Ron Byrd
Hospitality Greeter	Mike Billau	Betty Byrd	Debra Haynes	Dena Roberts	Pam Skidmore

MINISTRY TEAM FOR NOVEMBER 2015 *If you can't serve on your day, please arrange for a substitute. Thanks!