



Henderson United Methodist Church

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Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

2014, Issue 12

Henderson Happenings

Reflections from Ray ~ December 2014

Your pastor who cares so much about you would like to give you three gifts. At Christmas time, the gifts come as we open our hearts to the Spirit of God. Saint Paul was an amazing man. He wrote that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace. He then went on to mention six other great qualities that you will want to look up for yourself in Galatians chapter five.

LOVE is a highly praised quality. It needs to be put into practice. Not to be confused with love is liking. We don't like everybody, and it should not amaze us that everybody doesn't like us. But we can love them because they are also the children of God by creation.

The second gift for you is JOY. This is better than just pleasure or merriment. It is the deep down awareness that we are truly loved by God, and results in our glad desire to share that love.

The third gift is PEACE. Blessed are the peacemakers! This is the beatitude of encouragement. There are lots of peace-talkers, but you can become a peacemaker.

Besides the three gifts, there is a warning I want to mention. Watch out for carking! "Carking?" Whatever do you mean? This is an archaic Scottish word. CARK means to worry, to have needless anxiety and fear about the future. In this extremely busy pre-Christmas season, we are in danger of trying to do what a harried businessman described as "trying to put socks on an octopus." In a spirit of prayer, make a few firm, thoughtful decisions. Make a list of priorities. God will guide you if you seek His leading. We can be sure of that! You will remember that Advent means coming. It is the coming of the Baby Jesus that the joy is all about. What we shall do will be in honor of Him, and our way of expressing our love for our dear ones and our grateful esteem of our friends.

(Continued on page 2)

A friend invited me to a Christmas concert 2009. It time I pel. I believed that I went to the little church near the factory. I play guitar and sing for Jesus. ~Benson



at a factory in was the first heard the gos-prayed and in Jesus. After

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A testimony from China



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During Advent, we are thinking of gifts – of giving them and possibly receiving them. Let this be a time of steadiness, of making quiet times of rest, and of regaining a sense of proportion. Some of us will be able to bring rich gifts to our Church and the work of the Lord. Let us do it with a grateful and modest spirit. There are those of us who cannot give much, even though we would like to be able to do so. Whatever the gift, if the love of the giver is in it, the Great Giver, the Heavenly Father who gave us the Baby Jesus in Bethlehem, will receive our gift with joy and will bless us richly.

Yours for a carless Christmas,

Pastor Ray

An Update from Jane Hackenberg

A year ago, Anita asked me to help her with her English because she needed to improve her English to better serve Jesus. So we formed a class with the purpose of improving our English and we prayed for ministry opportunities. When the class of three started, God impressed upon me that this was a serious responsibility, one of the most important things that I would be doing in China. We met at my apartment week after week and our little class grew. We laughed, ate, prayed, sang, read the Bible, and studied our English lesson together. Their English got better and better. And God has blessed them with opportunities to use their improved English for His glory. For our one year class anniversary they wrote their testimonies.

Editor's note: page 1 has a testimony from Benson; two more testimonies follow:

I first believed in Jesus when I was in college. I went to an English program at church near my college. We read a book called "All About Jesus" and then I knew Jesus, this person and God. I kept thinking and searching if this world has God. And kept praying and asking God's help and blessing. God always answers and helps me. I feel close to my sisters and brothers in Christ and appreciate them. They love me. I know God is the only true God. So I believe in God.

-Steven

I have known about Jesus since I was a child. I decided to really follow Jesus when I read a book called "The Secret." There was no direction in my life. I read this book and I felt the need for the one who created the universe to help me. When I started to follow Jesus, my life changed. I was fuzzy about things right or wrong, but now I have self-control. I have courage to have a clean mind to keep right things and to refuse wrong things. For me, He is not just my Savior, but also my Teacher.

-Linda

Then

They use to hide under the cover of white sheets and run around at night searching out and dealing pain and torture to people of color. It didn't matter if the "colored people" had done anything wrong but just because they were colored they made for good sport. The colored people were brought to this country to be slaves and they could be controlled more easily. Times changed and blacks gained freedom and property and rights, and started getting too uppity. So under sheet lawmen joined forces with other white folks to do harm and suppress that new found freedom. They beat and hanged and burned out and did just whatever they wanted to people of color. That must have been a scary time for black folks. That was then.

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dec. 1—Louise Smail
- Dec. 4—Sydney Williams
- Dec. 4—Frank Farley
- Dec. 4—Caron Williams
- Dec. 6—Katie Dine Owens
- Dec. 10—Krystle Shields
- Dec. 16— Ashlee Montero
- Dec. 18— Kathy Fuller
- Dec. 19— Mary Ann Applebee
- Dec. 22- Johnathan Johnson, Jr.
- Dec. 25—** Celebrating the birth of Christ Jesus
- Dec. 29— Tyler Farley
- Dec. 30— Alyssa Ramos



Happy Birthday

Things to Remember:

Pastor Ray's regular day off is *Friday*

Your Prayers Are Requested For:

- Pastor Jane Myers
- Kate Drew
- Louise Smail
- Kathy Fuller
- Sandi Williams
- Ronnie Drew
- Dave Parker

- Danny Bull
- Leon Hull Family



Isaiah 58:8 NKJV) Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Ephesians 2:10
 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (NIV)

December Helpers

- Announcer Carl
- Scripture Kate
- Greeter Margaret
- Counters Michelle/Mary
- Ushers Walter/ Youth

January Helpers

- Announcer Mary
- Scripture Kathy
- Greeter Betty
- Counters Margaret/Brandy
- Ushers Walter/youth



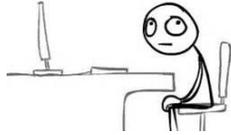
Thank you to all our volunteers

Visit our Church Website at:

www.Hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Random Thoughts

PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE



<http://HendersonUnitedMethodistChurch.com>

In the age of electronic communication we have the luxury of visiting websites on the Internet to get our information, and Face Book to keep in touch with family and friends. While our Newsletter is great in print for those who do not have access to the internet or just like having a printed copy, this month I would like to make everyone aware of what's available on our website.

We have a Guest Book for people to read and sign. You can find the latest Sunday Bulletin and past bulletins. Also listed are past newsletters (maybe you lost your printed copy), events and photos. We have a calendar that lists upcoming events and a page with history of our church and some photos.

There is also information about our Food Pantry and a map showing our distribution area and applications you can print and bring in. There is a page that lists our Service Personnel and an option to email additions. The contact page includes the church phone number and email addresses for church information, to reach our Pastor and for prayer requests.

We want to make our website full of information and resources for you. If you have ideas that you would like to see or information that would interest you please email:
webmaster@hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Thank you
Margaret Harrison
webmaster

Can't find an old newsletter but you know there was something you wanted to read again; find a computer and go to the website above and maybe you will find what you were looking for. *A random thought.*

Giving Thanks



Thanksgiving Day was a long one for me. I was up an hour earlier than normal because Thanksgiving family dinner would be held at our house and I wasn't quite prepared.

At least this year though I got the turkey early and it was thawed and ready for what comes next.

As I am about to take the extras out of the bird and rinse it I almost break out laughing. I remember hearing about a time when someone didn't remove parts from the neck cavity and proceeded to cook the turkey with that package of goodies still there. Just another spin on cooking in a bag!

Family dinner today was a special treat. Four generations: Nana and Papa, three children, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild all present and accounted for, and other family members. What made this day so special? Nana recently had some very serious health issues but is slowly bouncing back. She tires easily now so to have everyone here meant a lot.

The body is made up of many parts and when each part does its job, it's like "poetry in motion". That's the way dinner went; everyone had their menu assignments and went above and beyond. What a feast we had; turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, duck, sweet potatoes, green beans, mac and cheese, apple pie, pumpkin pie, cheese cake, cookies and I probably forgot something. Duck? Right now I feel like a stuffed turkey!

As I think about my family today I recall in Isaiah 40 about the Lord being the everlasting God, creator of the ends of the earth. He created each and everyone of us and placed us right where he wanted us. If we hope in him he will raise us up on wings like an eagle. We can run and not get tired, walk and not get weary. I thank the Lord for my family. Bless the name of the Lord

Thanks to the Mouse for allowing me to use his space.

cw



His understanding is beyond human reach, giving power to the tired and reviving the exhausted.

Give the homeless and hungry a hand up this season.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

On Sunday, Nov. 23, we had our combined worship service with our Spanish brothers and sisters at San Juan. We had a service of short readings about Christian symbols and lots of music. We also had plenty of good food. I was disappointed more people didn't come because we all have reasons to give thanks.



CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

The children's Christmas party will be Sunday, Dec. 14, right after church. We will have a light lunch and then the children will receive a Christmas box. Anyone wishing to donate sandwiches, cookies, or drinks please speak to me ASAP.

We have decided not to have a community Christmas party this year. The children that attend church and the children of food pantry recipients will receive a gift from the Moose Club and Santa's Helpers. We will need some help picking up gifts from Santa's Helpers on Tuesday December 2nd. If you can help with this project please speak with Margaret.

We received 250 books from BOOKS FOR KIDS, so our children will each receive 2 books. Thank God for those agencies willing to give during the holidays.

Once again the Moose Club has offered to do a Christmas Angel tree for the children of this community. Great thanks to Jim and Pastor Mary Stewart.

We will be distributing 100 Christmas boxes on December 18. We will begin to pack those boxes the week of December 8. If you are interested in helping pack boxes please see Margaret or Brandy. We will also need some strong men to help at the distribution on December 18th. Each family will receive 2 boxes. If you can help that day also contact Margaret or Brandi for exact times.

FOOD PANTRY

Food pantry is going strong. The food pantry at 22nd and Reed closed so we have picked up some of their clients. We are serving over 80 families every two weeks. Again if you are looking for something to do, there is a food pick up almost every Friday and definitely a food pick up every first and third Wednesday. Beginning January 2015 we will be having food pantry every other week. All are welcome to get involved with this giving ministry.

ANGEL FOR A DAY

Two weeks ago we had an angel show up at the food pantry. A man, named Paul. I saw him walking around San Juan church as we returned from picking up food from second harvest. I asked him if I could help him. He said he had some time and wanted to help. "What did he say that for?" Paul helped carry food in, sort eggs, assist people with filling their bags and helped to carry them to their cars. He was an angel for a day.



OTHER NEWS

At a meeting on Nov. 1, the PPRC committee found out that June 30 will be Pastor Ray's last day with our congregation. Please keep our churches in prayer as the DS and Bishop decide who will be the best person to appoint as our next Pastor.

~Mary Adams

This Is Now

continued from page 2

The white sheets are few but under the cover of some blue uniforms there are still some lawmen joining forces with other folks to do harm, even deadly harm, to people of color. It is being covered up by "I was in fear for my life". He had to shoot eleven or twelve times because once was not enough. Sadly good, honest and hardworking police officers aren't getting the respect they deserve because too many of them stand by their brothers in blue whether they are right or wrong. People of color aren't getting the respect they want because too many of them react to a bad situation with violence which escalates the problem. What good can come out of burning homes and businesses. That's what they did then.

~cw

DECEMBER



**Office Hours 10:00am – 1pm M W F
unless otherwise stated.**

Dec. 3rd 9am Pick up of perishables at Second Harvest.

Help is needed at Ministry Building at 9:30 to unload and sort

11am – 1 pm Food Pantry Distribution (volunteers appreciated)

Dec. 4th Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray
12:30pm

Dec 5th 9am Food Pick up at Second Harvest.
Help is needed at Ministry Building at 9:30 to unload.

Dec 6th 10 am – 2pm St John Lutheran Church
Clothing Distribution Party

Dec 7th 9:30 am Sunday Services and Holy
Communion - 10:45 am Sunday School

Dec 7- 8- 9th Pack Christmas Boxes and Christmas
Gifts.

Dec 9th 7pm Church Conference for Henderson, San
Juan and Simpson at Simpson UMC

Dec. 11th Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray
12:30pm

Dec 12th 9am Food Pick up at Second Harvest.
Help is needed at Ministry Building at 9:30 to unload

Dec 14th 9:30 am Sunday Services
10:45 am Sunday School

Christmas Party at Ministry Building – bring a dish to
share.

Dec 17th 11am – 6pm Distribution of Christmas Boxes
(Volunteers appreciated)

Dec. 18th Prayer Time at San Juan with Pastor Ray
12:30pm

Dec 19th 9am Food Pick up at Second Harvest.
Help is needed at Ministry Building at 9:30 to unload

Dec 21st 9:30 am Sunday Services
10:45 am Sunday School

Dec 24th Christmas Eve Services 6 pm

Dec 25th Merry Christmas

Dec 28th 9:30 am Sunday Services
10:45 am Sunday School

Dec 31st New Year's Family Night
starting at 6pm

**Remember the Past, Plan for the Future but,
Live in the Present. To God be the Glory.**



**As the new year
blossoms,
may the journey
of your life be
fragrant with new
opportunities,
your days be
bright with new
hopes and your
heart be happy
with love!**

Happy New Year!