



Henderson United Methodist Church

2004 Camphausen Avenue

Erie, Pa. 16510

Phone 814-453-6041

Pastor Harry Raymond Speakman, Jr. Cell 814-450-3150

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Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Henderson Happenings

Reflections from Ray: May 2015

While Easter has come and gone, the gracious after-glow still lingers in our midst. Christ's resurrection proves that death is not the final end of humanity. Even more important, because of His resurrection, we who love Him can know His companionship through life.

It is my hope that all of us will continue the practice of worshipping God every day in our own homes and every week in His house. It is with these thoughts in mind that I urge your faithful attendance this coming Lord's Day. It is my constant prayer that our spiritual life may not become stagnant but may continue to grow. I believe our prayer life is so essential to this growth.

Prayer became an essential foundation stone in the establishment of our United States of America through the influence of General George Washington and many other founding fathers. The first Thursday of May (the seventh of May this year) is set aside as a NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER. It was in 1952 when the Senate and House of Representatives called upon the President to set aside a day each year as a National Day of Prayer.

How can we make this a meaningful observance ? The National Prayer Committee has determined three basic goals for the National Day of Prayer. First, to advocate repentant and humble prayer, that in the words of George Washington, looks . . . "to the Almighty Being who rules the universe." A second goal is to raise America's awareness of our dependence upon God

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and of our nation's rich Biblical heritage of prayer. The third goal is to encourage the healing of our nation and world through earnest prayer that seeks Almighty God and His values for our private and public lives.

We sing the hymn "Sweet Hour of Prayer", yet we are content with five minutes. Recently I was reading "Prayerobics" by Cecil Murphy, which is a guide for developing your prayer fitness. If you are struggling with how to develop your prayer life in a meaningful way, I would recommend that you read his book. For too many people, prayer and devotional Bible study are guilt-invoked duties or chores. They are not meant to be. Murphy describes how prayer is a form of spiritual exercise, and he approaches the way to prayer fitness with the same fresh, matter-of-fact approach found in most physical fitness manuals.

Murphy deals with the same obstacles to regular prayer, such as the wandering mind, the emotional ups and downs we experience, and even the difficulty for some to get out of bed in the morning. He offers practical suggestions about how to get around these obstacles instead of giving up on a prayer life.

I hope you will decide to do something to make May 7th, National Day of Prayer, a significant day for you, and not just another observance to be laid aside and forgotten. I also hope that prayer will develop into a significant part of your life EVERY DAY !

Blessings,

Pastor Ray

Safe Sanctuary

The purpose of a Safe Sanctuaries policy is to prevent trouble from happening. Yes, the church needs a strong liability insurance policy, but the first line of defense is to always have two trained and background-checked adults present in every Sunday School class or activity. There is a classic true case in Safe Sanctuaries material about a child who came in late, ran to a teacher, hugged the teacher's knees and shouted, "Ouch, stop, you're hurting me!" The teacher looked up and saw the father videoing the scene from the door. The father went to the pastor and began trying to extort money. But since there were two teachers in the class, and so another witness to what happened, the pastor simply said, "No,



you know that's not true. Now tell me what's really the trouble." The man admitted he needed money and thought he could blackmail the church.

If these safeguards fail and someone observes real child abuse, then the civil processes take over. It's not the church's responsibility to provide legal counsel, for example. And you need to know your state law: Who is a mandated reporter, that is, someone who legally must report suspected child abuse? Pre-school teachers always. Pastors, in most states. Sunday School teachers? You need to know and it needs to be in your emergency procedures and Safe Sanctuaries policy.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- May 6 – Jean Farley
- May 8 -Tammara McCaleb
- May 12- Derek Shields
- May 15 –Kristina Harkless
- May 15 –Alexis Owens
- May 18 - Michelle Retzer
- May 21 – Cee Williams
- May 22 –Jesus Jimenez
- May 22 – Ina Marie Herrick
- May 22 –Johnathan Johnson
- May 25-Lysander Mora

Happy Birthday



Birthdays are filled with yesterday's memories, today's joys, and tomorrow's dreams.

Things to Remember:

Pastor Ray's regular day off is *Friday*

- *Sunday worship 9:30 am*

Your Prayers Are Requested For:

- Pastor Jane Myers
- Kate Drew
- Louise Smail
- Kathy Fuller
- Sandi Williams
- Ronnie Drew
- Glen Dine
- Ruby Hull
- Wanda Brunner**
- Pastor Ray**
- Our City and our nation



Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. Matthew 4:23 NIV

May Helpers

- Announcer Wanda
- Scripture Brandy
- Greeter Margaret
- Counters Wanda/Ruby
- Ushers Walter/ Youth

June Helpers

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



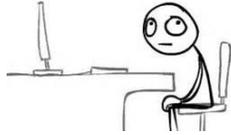
Thank you to all our volunteers

Visit our Church Website at:

www.Hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Random Thoughts

Do What You Gotta Do



How often have you heard or said "you do what you gotta do"? It got me to wondering if I did what I should have done. If I really give it some serious thought and do what I should be doing my life, how awesome would that be? Come to think about it if all of us only did what we should be doing what a wonderful world we would be living in.

We were given a new commandment to love the Lord with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as much we love ourselves. And since everyone is our neighbor, man that's a whole lot of loving going on. That takes us right back to God who loved us so much that He sent his only son to save us from sin. What an "Awesome God We Serve"!

Most of us took some time during this Easter season to reflect on Jesus' living and dying for us. Did we learn anything new about God? Well if we "do what we gotta do" or did what we should've done we would've learned something new about our living God. However even if we didn't learn anything new during this season there are things that we learned previously that we could be putting into action today and in the future.

God is love and if we keep our mind "stayed on Jesus" it'll make us love everybody, do no harm, do good and stay in love with God. If we do that which we should be doing, many of us would be, as they say, "walking the walk and not just talking the talk". Start right now and do what you gotta do for Jesus!

Just a thought.

~CW

Summer Program 2015



Our summer program will run from June 29th to August 7th. We will meet Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at Noon at the Ministry Building. Each week we will discuss a day in the creation of the world. A brief look at each day is below:

Creation Day 1 (Genesis 1:1-5)

God created the heavens and the earth.

Creation Day 2 (Genesis 1:6-8)

God creates the sky.

Creation Day 3 (Genesis 1:9-13)

God creates dry land. God creates all plant life both large and small.

Creation Day 4 (Genesis 1:14-19)

God creates all the stars and heavenly bodies.

Creation Day 5 (Genesis 1:20-23)

God creates all life that lives in the water. Any life of any kind that lives in the water is made at this point. God also makes all the birds.

Creation Day 6 (Genesis 1:24-31)

God creates all the creatures that live on dry land. This includes every type of creature not included on previous days and God creates man in his own image. God declares this work good. God's creative work is complete at the end of the sixth day. God announces that it is very good.

Creation Day 7 (Genesis 2:1-3)

God rests. This denotes that the creation is complete and God is establishing a pattern of one day in seven to rest.

The nurture committee has been meeting regularly and planning for a great summer program and have faith that it will be a huge success.



Mary Reports

Condolences

Our sympathies go out to Carl, Kate and Betty on the loss of their sister, Janas Burton. Please remember them and their extended families in your prayers. This is an especially difficult time for them because of the number of deaths in the last several months.

Pastor Jane

I have visited Pastor Jane twice in the past month. She looks good; still smiling and cracking jokes. She has lost some weight and is a little forgetful but really enjoys visits.

Mothers Day

After church on Sunday May 10th we will be having a gathering for mothers. We will be serving refreshments. Please come and join us as we celebrate mothers.

Pastor Change

As most of you know we are having a pastoral change. Pastor Ray is on vacation the first two Sundays in May. The first Sunday in June will be his last Sunday to preach. Please be supportive of Pastor Ray. I'm sure they will welcome some help packing. Please consider what you can do to make this transition run more smoothly.

Be in prayer for all pastors in transition. Pastor Mary is happy to be returning but she also has emotions about leaving her present congregations.

Adoption

Congratulations to Melissa and Jeff who have successfully adopted Teegan and Mikayla. We are so happy for you and the girls.

Camp

We have begun to register our children for summer camp. Each year we have to come up with ways to pay for these children to attend

camp. Each camp costs about \$400. Please consider paying a portion of the camp for a child or if you have a good idea about a fund raiser please let us know.

Speaking of camp Harry attended exceptional persons camp on a recent weekend. Harry loves the camp and they love having him.

Congratulations Harry on your job at the Barber center. We're looking forward to seeing those jewelry boxes.

Easter

Several of the ladies transformed card board boxes into beautiful Easter baskets. They made 30 baskets. The baskets were filled and distributed Easter morning. There was also an Easter egg hunt on Easter morning.

Erie-Meadville District Conference

May 17, 2015 - 2:30 pm

This year the conference is being held at: Wesley UMC
3308 South Street

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN TO BENEFIT OLMSTED RETREAT

Sub Sale \$5.00 Each



Order now and Pick up
and Pay on June 5th
Orders being taken by any UMW member
or call 814-453-6041

MAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Helpers for May – Announcer – Wanda Greeter – Margaret Scripture – Brandy Usher- Walter and Youth Counter – Wanda and Ruby	
Office hours are M – W- F 10 am to 1pm & Emergency Food non-food-week 12 – 1pm	
Pastor Ray is on vacation from April 29 th to May 7 th .	
1 st Friday	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am Help needed at 9:30 to unload
2 nd Saturday	UMW Sub sale starts and continues until June 4 th Sub pick up June 5 th .
3 rd Sunday	Church 9:30 a.m.
4 th Monday	
5 th Tuesday	
6 th Wednesday	
7 th Thursday	National Day of Prayer
8 th Friday	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am Help needed at 9:30 to unload
9 th Saturday	
10 th Sunday	Church Services 9 a m Mother's Day Get-together after church services.
11 th Monday	
12 th Tuesday	Food Pantry Volunteer Meeting Noon
13 th Wednesday	Food Pantry Pick up at 9:00 a m Help is needed unloading and sorting Food distribution at Noon to 2 pm Help needed distributing food
14 th Thursday	Ascension Day
15 th Friday	Food Pick up at Second Harvest 9 am Help is need unloading
16 th Saturday	Armed Forces Day AD Council Meeting 10 am
17 th Sunday	Church 9:30 am
18 th Monday	
19 th Tuesday	
20 th Wednesday	
21 st Thursday	
22 nd Friday	Food Pick Up from Second Harvest 9 am Help needed unloading
23 rd Saturday	
24 th Sunday	Pentecost Church Services 9:30 am
25 th Monday	Observed Memorial Day
26 th Tuesday	Food Pantry Volunteer Meeting Noon
27 th Wednesday	Food Pantry Pick up of Perishables 9 am Food distribution Noon – 2 pm
28 th Thursday	
29 th Friday	Food Pick up from Second Harvest 9 am Help needed to unload
30 th Saturday	
31 st Sunday	Trinity Sunday Services 9:30 a m

3rd Annual Shoe Drive

Our last drive was a great success due to the many churches and individuals who joined in the cause.

This year's drive
We also want to
requires that

Do you have
somewhere in-
We can put them



will run from May 1 to July 1, 2015.
note that the company accepting the shoes
shoe pairs must be rubber banded together.

some of these in your closet? Old, new, or
between.
all to good use!

Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is For Malaria



After speaking at a Florida congregation recently, WPAUMC Bishop Thomas Bickerton was ushered into the church's gymnasium and handed a bas-

ketball.

The challenge: For every basket he made, church members paid \$10 toward global malaria relief. For every one he missed, he put in \$10 of his own. According to Bishop Bickerton he left a bit poorer after that challenge.

Bishop Bickerton recently announced the latest installment of the church's fundraising efforts: \$9.6 million to the Global Fund, an international partnership of government and private sector that combats AIDS and tuberculosis as well malaria. The contribution is the largest by a faith-based organization and is part of a larger six-year Imagine No Malaria campaign, said Bishop Bickerton, who joined other principals involved with the fund at a Washington news conference for the announcement.

The church has raised \$18 million to date toward its \$28 million pledge to the Global Fund

and is getting close to a goal of raising \$75 million overall toward various anti-malaria campaigns.

The project was formally launched in 2010 and is scheduled to conclude in 2016.

The campaign, Bishop Bickerton said, is a way "to back up what we say we believe" and care for the poor.

Nepal Earthquake Survivors in Dire Need of Food, Shelter

In rural Nepal, the number of casualties from the April 25 earthquake was lessened by the fact that many people were outside of their homes when the disaster occurred, reports a United Methodist missionary couple who are based there.

Statistics compiled through the U.N. Resident Coordinator's Situation Report estimate 8.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Nepal and 3.5 million in need of food assistance, with more than 10,000 injured.

Donations to support the response to the earthquake in Nepal and other international disasters can be made online through UMCOR Advance # 982450. Checks also can be made out to your local United Methodist church. Write UMCOR Advance #982450 on the memo line and put in the offering plate.



Helping those who are homeless – one heart at a time.

DID YOU KNOW? EUMA distributes over \$50,000 worth of

coats, boots, gloves, socks, hats, shirts, pants, household goods to those who need – free of charge.

Remember the Rainbow Connection Thrift Store (1516 Buffalo Road, Erie) as you clean out your closets this spring – accepting new and gently used donations of clothing and household items Monday-Friday from 9:30AM to 5PM.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Spring is finally here! We are seeking volunteer help with spring sprucing and maintenance projects at EUMA facilities, such as landscaping and mowing. If you can help anytime Monday through Saturday from 8AM to 4PM, contact Jeff Roach (EUMA Facilities Manager) at (814) 456-8073.



" I THINK JESUS HAD A HORSE. HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF HIS SERMON ON THE MOUNT ? "

SUMMER CAMP AT WESLEY WOODS

Henderson children are starting to sign up for camp which starts June 4th



The 2015 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community Erie takes place **Saturday, June 6, 2015**, at Presque Isle State Park. This year's Walk will benefit 23 health and human service organizations.

The 5K Walk starts at 9:00 am with onsite registration beginning at 7:45 am.

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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander

01-15-2004

HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?