

Henderson United Methodist Church

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Erie, Pa. 16510

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Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

2014, Issue 11

Henderson Happenings

Reflections from Ray ~ November 2014

“Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life.” ~ Proverbs 22:6

How will future generations learn and experience God’s love and learn how to love Him in return ? Passing on the knowledge of God and His ways to future generations is a matter of great importance and discipline. Jewish tradition refers to Deuteronomy 6: 4 – 9 as the “Shema”, because the first Hebrew word in the passage is **shema**, which means to listen or hear. This confession of faith in the One True God is to be recited twice a day and taught to one’s children. (verses 6 and 7) By incorporating these words into the habits of daily life, children learn love and obedience. Instructions involve taking these words to heart (memorize) and showing them in public. Some Jewish people put Scripture passages in small leather pouches called phylacteries and tie them to their wrists and foreheads.

Yet there are millions of children around the world who still need to learn about the One True God. The Bible Societies around the world are working to teach children about the love and message of Jesus. In the West Indies 18 summer camps on the island of Jamaica have served as a venue to introduce 2,500 children to the Good News Bible. Children, teachers, and parents responded enthusiastically to this easy-to-read Bible translation, saying that this version is much easier to understand and should help the children to learn to appreciate the Bible. The Bible Society of the West Indies worked with local churches to promote the use of a Bible that children can read, thereby passing on God’s Word to a new generation. Learning the Good News of God’s love through Jesus Christ is an experience these children will cherish. They need a heritage that they will want to pass on to their children. What are we doing in our community of faith to pass on God’s ways to the next generation ?

Blessings,
Pastor Ray

Sunday November 2, 2014

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The Little Engine That Couldn't by Jane Hackenberg

Dave and I recently visited our son, John, who lives in South Korea. While there we toured the Demilitarization Zone which separates North and South Korea. One of the strangest sights was the \$40 million Dorasan Train Station which was built in 2002 to take passengers to Pyongyang, North Korea. It's all there: the new and shiny tracks, ticket counter, empty seats in the waiting room. But the station never opened, just sitting there hoping for the day when the country will be reunited and the train can transport people. The station is maintained as it sits idly waiting for that day to come.

Made me wonder. Has God built something in my life that is just sitting there waiting to be used. We are all under construction. In Isaiah 43:19 we read: "Behold I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Are we using what God has built in our lives or are we dormant? When God makes us ready, let's get moving! "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

SUPERINTENDENT ISSUES A CHALLENGE



As you may know, the Erie-Meadville District is in partnership with the Bulawayo District of the Zimbabwe West Annual Conference. As part of the partnership we agreed to assist the congregation of the Redcliff UMC build their sanctuary. In Africa, the entire building could be completed for \$26,000.00. To date, the good folks of the Erie Meadville District have raised about \$15,000 toward that goal.

Our DS is challenging the churches of our district to complete this fund raising project by our District Conference, which will be held on May 17, 2015. If the churches can meet this goal, Joe will shave his head (not his beard!) publicly at the conference.

So, help us meet this goal, celebrate with the people of the Redcliff UMC and have a little fun along the way!

MINISTRY NEEDS at The Refuge:

The Refuge is serving 63% of all homeless families receiving temporary shelter care in the county and 3 out of every 4 homeless children. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. Donations can be dropped off directly at The Refuge, 1027 E. 26th St., Erie; or for more information contact the shelter at (814) 454-6088. Ongoing needs include:

1. Cash to strengthen our ministries to homeless families
2. Coats (new or gently used)
 - a. Children; Youth; Women; Men
3. Pillows (new)
4. Slippers (new)
 - a. Children; Youth; Women; Men
5. Pajamas (new or gently used)
 - a. Children; Youth; Women; Men
6. Underwear (new)
 - a. Children; Youth; Women; Men
7. Socks (new)
 - a. Same as above
8. Deodorant (new)
 - a. Men's; Women's

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Randy Tate
- 6 - Billy Johnson
- 9 - Patricia Lunger
- 10 - Tom Granger
- 11 - Javan Johnson
- 13 - Ginnisue Juliano
- 16 - Amie Kowalczak
- 23 - Gabrielle Snider
- 26 - Jane Myers
- 27 - Beth Lockwood
- 27 - Jessica Phillip
- 28 - Cheryl Witherspoon



Happy Birthday

Praise, oh let them praise the name of God—he spoke the word, and there they were! Ps 148:5 The Msg.

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



- ◇ Keep Kate Drew in your prayers as she continues to recover at home after surgery.
- ◇ Pray for Sandi Williams as she continues her recovery at home.

I look up to the mountains; does my strength come from the mountains? No, my strength comes from God, who made heaven, and earth, and mountains. Psalm 121: 1-2 The Message

November Helpers

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

December Helpers

- Announcer Carl
- Scripture Kate
- Greeter Margaret
- Counters Mary/Michele
- Ushers Walter/youth



Thank you to all our volunteers

Visit our Church Website at:

www.Hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Random Thoughts

Jesus said to them, **“Follow Me.”** Mark 1:17

It was a bad Erie winter.

Snow, snow and more snow

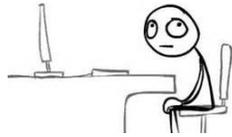
to battle through. For a little first grader, the snow was just too deep, but every day we had to walk to school. Trudging through the field seemed impossible. That wicked white stuff was up to my knees. But my sister and I had a secret weapon. Our dad. He walked ahead of us patiently taking small steps for a big man, but they were just right for us. We carefully followed him, placing our booted foot one at a time in his big footprint. Step by step we made it to school no matter how deep the snow was that day. All we had to do was to follow our father.

God goes before us, fighting the battles, setting it all up. Making a way when there seems to be no way. He knows where we need to go and helps us to get there. All we have to do is follow our Heavenly Father. “With us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.” 2 Chronicles 32:8

-Jane Hackenberg

What was I thinking? It was a late fall day or maybe early winter, I can't recall. I do remember though that it was cold enough to have the large kerosene burning stove on to heat the house. It started getting kind of hot in the living room and mom noticed that the wall was heating up. She told me to run over the bridge to the gas station and call the fire department. I headed out the door and across the bridge to the station but I ran right on past it and to the fire station because it was only a short distance away and I thought I could save a little time. Well when I got to the brick firehouse and banged on the door there was no answer. You see it was a volunteer fire department and the station was not manned. I now had to run back to the gas station and ask the attendant to call the fire department. He did and the fire crew arrived at our house in time to put out the fire with minimal damage. Not doing as I was told in the first place could have had some real serious consequences; one time when this kid should have obeyed his parent. Just a *random thought*.

~cw



Caution Work Area

Getting around the ministry building was a little tough a couple weeks ago. There were all of these desk tops, hangers, shelving and a lot of other whatchamacallits all over the place. A company had donated some furnishings that they no longer needed and it all had to be picked up like too quick. Brandy and Margaret were all over it and rounded up a crew to pick up and deliver said stuff to Henderson where it was deposited (you guessed it) in the ministry building. Man I was scrambling here and there just to get out of the way; got to give them credit though for the work they've done so far putting some of it together.

I'm sure it's going to take a little more work to place things around where a majority of the members will be ok with it but it is a work-in-progress; seldom can any worthwhile project be perfected so hastily. There may end up being a few frayed nerves but surely teamwork and patience will win out. It's kinda sorta like when we discover a big ol chunk of cheese and don't know what to do with it at the time. Ideally there won't be a tug of war and me and the others will just get together and with each pulling his own weight in the same direction, the job will get done. And later we can all relax and share in the blessings to follow.

By the way, speaking of blessings, I heard that Don Blystone the District Lay Leader did a wonderful job filling in for Pastor Ray on October 12th. I didn't get over to the sanctuary that day because I couldn't find my way out of the ministry building.

2014 Crop Walk

Participants in the 2014 Erie county Crop Walk from Henderson were Mary Adam, Brandy Carpenter, Margaret Harrison, Ruby Hull, Betty Williams and Carl Williams. Carl reported that the group raised just shy of \$700.00. I know that it was a glorious day but I heard there were not as many walker probably due to the Rock the Lakes concert on the same day. Hopefully there will be no scheduling conflicts next year and the number of walkers will increase.



Well I think I'll make my way back to my hideout and try to keep out of the way of the construction crew. I hope to scoot on across the parking lot in a few weeks for the yearly Thanksgiving feast.

Later yall

ON-GOING SHOE COLLECTION REMINDER

OLMSTED RETREAT

On Friday, Oct. 17th 6 women from Henderson and San Juan met at Olmsted Manor for our annual women's retreat. Sadly, our numbers were small but we enjoyed relaxing in the Spirit of God, good food, and the beautiful atmosphere. We took a Spiritual Gifts assessment and talked about if the assessment showed us anything new about ourselves and what we are going to do now that the gifts have been identified. Our retreat is a time for the women there to share what is happening in their lives and pray for one another. We made fall wreaths. Plans are underway for next year's retreat. This retreat is open to women 18 and over. Ladies we know from year to year when we are going and the cost so please start saving now.

INFORMAL LEADERSHIP GATHERING

When the nominating committee met to elect officers for this year's charge conference we had a discussion about leadership qualifications. We decided it would be a good idea to gather together informally to discuss this. That meeting will be Nov. 8th at 10 a.m. We will be having lunch together.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kathy and I are having Sunday School for the children and Brandi is meeting with the kids over 12. We are discussing the Bible, Old Testament and New Testament and the number of books. We encourage all children to come.

EXCEPTIONAL PERSONS RETREAT

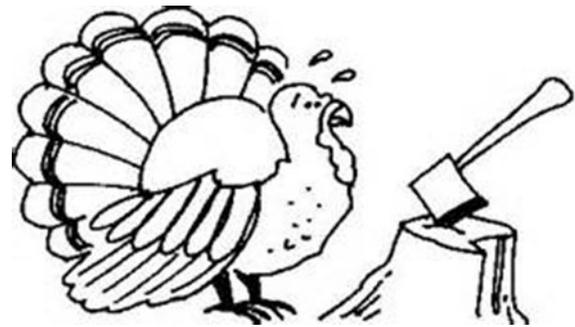
Harry attended exceptional persons fall retreat the first weekend in Oct. As usual, Harry enjoyed himself. There will be another retreat in April.

SYMPATHY

Our congregation has been affected by several deaths in the past few months. Breanne Ponder lost her dad. Sandi Williams' brother John passed on and Tabitha's daughter was killed in a car accident. Holly Miller's sister Halley was killed in a fire on Lighthouse St. Walter and Kathy's niece Mary died in her sleep last week. Manuel Tirado died from cancer and Arlene Aleen who used to be very active her died 2 weeks ago. Please pray for these families. Some have been tragic and it's never easy to lose a loved one regardless of how it happens.

~Mary Adams

It's the season of fall rummage/garage/yard sales. Please remember everyone we need your left over shoes. If possible we'd like to have them in large bags, pairs of shoes banded together, 25 pairs to a bag, but we'll take them however they come. The collection point is: 227 Hathaway St East, Girard, PA -- Shoes can be dropped off there any time.



Hey Tom! Guess what day it is?

On Sunday November 23rd the congregations of San Juan and Henderson will gather for a combined Worship Service at 12:30 pm to be followed by our annual Thanksgiving dinner. We usually put out a list for folks to post what they plan to cook up; not too soon to start thinking about it.

Sorry Tom, but I think you might be on the menu!

Congratulations

Belated kudos to Cee Williams who was named Erie County Poet Laureate on September 5th. Cee operates Poet's Hall on East Sixth and has been really busy doing what he does best; promoting poetry in Erie.

CHILI COOK-OFF/DAN SCHALL CONCERT--- S. Harborcreek—Nov 9th

Come join us for an evening of chili and the music of Dan Schall on Sun, Nov 9th at S. Harborcreek UMC, 7929 McGill Rd., Harborcreek. The evening starts off with a chili cook-off at 5:00PM followed by Dan's music ministry at 6:00PM. Anyone is invited to bring chili and everyone present will get to sample and vote on their favorite. For details, call 814-899-5962 or 814-504-0378.

NOVEMBER



Church Office Hours M – W- F- 10:30 am to 1:00 pm unless otherwise specified.

Nov 1st Sat

All Saints Day

10 am – 11 am Charge Pastor Parish Committee Meeting

Nov 2nd Sun

Daylight Savings Time Ends

9:30 am Services

Holy Communion

10:45 am Sunday School

Nov 5th Wed

9 am Food Pick Up at Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry Building at 9:30am)

11 am – 1 pm Food Pantry (Distribution Help is needed)

Nov 6th Thurs

12:30 Prayer Time at San Juan (come early and have lunch compliments of City Mission)

Nov 7th Fri

9 am Food Pick Up at Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry Building at 9:30 am)

Nov 8th Sat

11: am Leadership Gathering and Luncheon (time subject to change)

Nov 9th Sun

9:30 am Services

10:45 am Sunday School

Nov 13th Thurs

12:30 Prayer Time at San Juan (come early and have lunch compliments of City Mission)

Nov 14th Fri

9am Food Pick Up at Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry Building at 9:30 am)

11 am Sort Food for Distribution on Nov 19th (Help is needed.)

Nov 15th Sat

10am AD Council Meeting

Nov 16th Sun

9:30 am Services

10:45 am Sunday School

Nov 19th Wed

9am Pick up Food at Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry building by 9:30 am)

11 am – 1 pm Food Pantry at Ministry Building (Help is needed.)

Nov 20th Thurs

12:30 pm Prayer Time at San Juan (come early and have lunch)

Annual Church Conference (more information coming)

Nov 21st Fri

9am Food Pick Up from Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry Building at 9:30 am)

Nov 23rd Sun

12:30 pm Combined Worship Service and Thanksgiving Dinner at San Juan

1pm – 3pm Free Thanksgiving Dinner at Martin Luther King Green Room

Nov 27th Thurs

THANKSGIVING DAY

Nov 28th Fri

9am Food Pick up from Second Harvest (Help is needed, be at Ministry Building at 9:30 am)

Nov 30th Sun

First Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Services

10:45 am Sunday School