



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.

2014, Issue 10

Henderson Happenings

Reflections from Ray: October 2014

When I am writing a note by hand and make a mistake, rather than crossing it out, I usually reach either for that little bottle of stuff called White-Out or the less messy E Z correct White-Out film. Then the wrong letters that I wrote just disappear, leaving a fresh white space for me to fill with what is right.

Barbara Johnson told a story about when she worked in a doctor’s office scheduling appointments. Whenever somebody would call to cancel or reschedule, the marks always made the book look so messy, and that really bothered her. She would have to write over or under the name to be replaced or else write in the margins, and she didn’t like the result of all the scribbles. Then she realized White-Out was the miracle she was looking for to keep the doctor’s books looking more professional, even with all the changes. She would paint a nice, clean space where the client’s name had been, and by the end of the day, everything looked neat and tidy. Instead of messy columns, there would be rows of easy to read names.

Barbara called White-Out her First John 1:9 stuff because it would blot out the mess and leave a clean place – just like God does with our sins. We all need that spiritual White-Out to make us white as snow. (Read Isaiah 1:18) This is certainly a good reminder that each one of us can have a fresh start at the beginning of our day. Of course we realize that we cannot go back and change the past, but God can truly make each space in our lives new. One thing that God cannot see is our sin. Why? Because our sin is covered by God’s special White-Out: the blood of Jesus.

God knows your name and all the days appointed for you. When He needs to, God can use the White-Out for His glory and your greater good!

Blessings,

Pastor Ray



AT THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ERIE
707 SASSAFRAS STREET ERIE, PA 16501-1062
OCTOBER 10-12, 2014

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Henderson UMC Food Pantry



Henderson is able to distribute food to the local families the first and third Wednesday of the month. We are also able to give out emergency bags of food when needed which includes diapers, formula and baby food.

On our website <http://hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com/foodpantry.htm> we have photos of the items that were distributed. We receive food donations from Simpson Cascade UMC, First United Methodist Church and our church members. We receive grants and cash donations and money collected from fundraisers and the crop walk to purchase food from Second Harvest Food Bank.

We have 135 families signed up to receive food, but they all don't come to each give out. We distribute between 65 and 70 each give out week.

For the month of August we had 20 seniors (60+), 107 adults, 113 children in a total of 78 households. For September we had 45 seniors, 117 adults, 122 children, in 86 households. Our food pantry also distributes emergency bags of food. We have seen an increase in requests from families not in our designated area. We do supply them with food and then instruct them to contact Second Harvest for the food pantry in their addressed area.

At the present time we are having registration for our Christmas Boxes. This year we would like to make the box extra special by packing it especially for that family. We have asked for the names and ages of the children so as to give appropriate age-related treats. These registration forms need to be returned by Oct 15th so as to give us enough time to collect the food to put in the boxes and distribute them on Dec. 17th.

We have been blessed by local stores (Giant Eagle and Wegmans) with plastic bags to pack the food in and help our families carry it home.

While receiving the food from Second Harvest we are responsible for picking it up and bringing it to the Ministry Building. We could use help with transportation and then carrying the food into the building as well as on distribution day. Our pick up days are Friday at 9am and the day of give out (Wednesday). Once we pick the food up we bring it back and sort and count it, making sure we have enough for everyone. (But our pantry is run on First Come First Served basis).

IF you are willing to volunteer please call 814-453-6041 (please leave your name and number if we are not here) we will call you and let you know when and what type of help we need. Any help is appreciated.

Margaret Harrison

Birth Announcement



Desmond Brand Holmberg was born May 21, 2014 at 2:59am, measuring 7lbs 4 oz and almost 19 inches.

He's a very sweet one and now he is smiling, cooing, laughing, rolling, and keeping us on our toes! We are overjoyed!

Megan and Brit Holmberg

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 –Quinn Harvey
- 3 Darya Hackenberg
- 5- Russell Lockwood
- 8 - Jamie Lockwood
- 9- Mary Adams
- 14 Kaden Kowalczyk
- 15 Kayla Lockwood
- 20 Aireana Lockwood
- 20 Misty Harvey
- 24 Leon Hull
- 27 Pastor Mary Stewart
- 29 Wanda Brunner
- 30 Mercy Ann Cooper



Happy Birthday

Through me your days will be many; years will be added to your life. Proverbs 9:11 CEB

Things to Remember:

Pastor Ray's regular day off is *Friday*

Your Prayers Are Requested For:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Pastor Jane Myers | Danny Bull |
| Kate Drew | Leon Hull Family |
| Louise Smail | |
| Kathy Fuller | |
| Sandi Williams | |
| Ronnie Drew | |



- ◇ 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.

Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God! Set me free from my troubles! Have mercy on me! Listen to my prayer! Psalm 4:1 CEB

October Helpers

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Announcer | Mary |
| Scripture | Kathy |
| Greeter | Betty |
| Counters | Carl/Margaret |
| Ushers | Walter/ Youth |

November Helpers

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Announcer | Wanda |
| Scripture | Brandy |
| Greeter | Ruby |
| Counters | Wanda/Ruby |
| Ushers | Walter/youth |



Thank you to all our volunteers

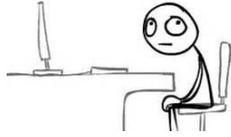
Visit our Church Website at:

www.Hendersonunitedmethodistchurch.com

Random Thoughts

Life Is Busy

It's sort of like "two street-cars passing in the night"; one going, one coming but which one are you on. I often ask myself that question but come up short of answers. Events of the last few weeks have me thinking that there are just not enough hours in a day. Whether we like it or not we are only allotted 24 hours to the day and if we don't use them wisely, it's our loss; no do-overs here!



I don't know about you but I like to spend some time star gazing or just simply gazing for no rhyme or reason other than to maybe catch my breath. Now that I think about it taking time to catch one's breath is not such a bad thing; it's probably just what the doctor would order.

Most of the time some of us travel through life taking everything in stride and life's ups and downs are just that; ups and downs. But then the downs beat down on the ups like a sledge hammer and wow! Have no fear though because our God is always here (I will never leave you nor forsake you. Hebrews 13:5).

I've got to stop and brag a little bit here because God blessed us with three caring children and seven wonderful grandchildren and when things get tough they all rally around. God provides for all of our needs if we only trust him and have faith. I didn't mention that I have a great-grandchild who really lifts our spirits especially if we might be feeling down. If I had failed to mention him I just might have been in for a beat down (verbally).

Did I mention how busy life has been lately? I'm thinking right now of all of those things that I should have done some time ago but didn't; sure wish I had because I would be a little less busy now. Like I said before "no do-overs". I'll just have to move on and try to do better from this moment on; not putting off for later what I can do now. Just a few *random thoughts*.

~CW

Giving



There was a lame beggar sitting at the gate of the temple holding out his hands for alms. This man was not lame as some might use the word today; you know like get a job, make something of yourself or get with it. This fellow was lame from birth and begging was what he did to survive.

As Peter and John were headed into the temple and this fellow who was lame held out his hands for whatever he could get, Peter turned and said to him, "gold or silver I do not have but I give you what I do have; in the name of Jesus get up and walk". Peter held out his hand and helped the man to his feet and his feet and ankles became stronger. I can just see that fellow in my mind walking, skipping and hopping around for the first time and praising God. He probably jumped up and touched his feet together in excitement; what a feat that would be for anyone. Peter and John were now his heroes!

Those who saw this man now able to walk and recognizing him as the lame beggar were awe-struck with Peter and John. What a perfect opportunity for Peter to boast! Peter did not seize upon the moment to brag but instead gave credit where credit was due. He told them that it was Jesus, the man who they allowed to be put to death even though they had a chance to save him. Through faith in the name of Jesus the lame man was made well and praised God!

There has been a lot said about Henderson's food pantry lately. The job that they have been doing is nothing short of amazing. T-bone steaks, lobsters or porterhouse steaks we don't have but God has blessed us with food for many. When the hat is passed let's remember that Jesus gave his all. Peter and John didn't have silver and gold but in the name of Jesus they were a blessing to the lame man.



Be a Blessing and I believe you will

Receive a Blessing

Praise God!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school has begun for the fall. Kathy and I are teaching One Room Sunday School with children from 3 to 12.

Brandi and Michele are teaching

the youth group. In my class we are learning about the Bible (Old Testament and New Testament) in general and then learning more about Moses. Please encourage your children and grandchildren to attend.

FOOD PANTRY

Brandy and Margaret have the food pantry running smoothly. They plan ahead what will be given out at each distribution time, order it, and have it bagged. The clients are extremely pleased with the food they are receiving. Letters for Christmas baskets have been distributed and they have started ordering the food for them. The plan is to do 100 food boxes for Christmas. Thanks to all who volunteer to make this an effective ministry for our community.

OLMSTED RETREAT

Our women's retreat this year will be Oct. 17, 18, 19 at Olmsted Manor as usual. We will be learning about OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS. The retreat is a weekend of relaxation, good food, and getting closer to God. We also do a lot of singing and will do a craft. There is still an opportunity to go but we need a \$20 deposit no later than Oct. 1st. The cost of the retreat is \$130. We will provide rides for those who need them.

COMBINED WORSHIP AND PICNIC

On Sunday, Sept. 7th, we joined the congregations of Simpson and San Juan in a combined worship service and picnic. It was a beautiful sunny day for fellowship. We extend our gratitude to John and Sandy Nelson for providing the hot dogs and hamburgers. The buns that were left were donated to the lunch program at San Juan.

~Mary Adams

Oct 4

10 AM Lay Leadership Development to work on slate of officers for 2015

11 AM Saturday October 4th Finance Committee



--Helping those who are homeless - one heart at a time

CONNECTING HANDS SALE – Connecting Hands (a volunteer group that offers support to area nonprofits through fundraising) will host a community sale for EUMA on Fri, Oct. 10 from 3 to 7PM and Sat, Oct. 11 from 9AM to 2PM. The sale (offering crafts, furniture, household items and more) will be held at the Connecto Electric warehouse at 3716 McClelland Ave., Erie. The event is open to the public and proceeds will benefit EUMA.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – EUMA's Fifth Annual Fall Extravaganza is slated for Fri, Nov. 7 at Lawrence Park Golf Club, 3700 East Lake Road, Erie. The event committee is currently seeking donations for the silent auction portion of the event. If you have an item/basket to donate, please contact our administrative office at (814) 456-8073.

ANTI-RACISM SEMINAR---Erie: First

Oct 10-12th

There is still time to register!! The Western PA Conference Anti-Racism Team will host a two and a half day seminar to encourage and promote an understanding of systemic racism in our communities and institutions. Led by presenters from Crossroads Anti-racism Organizing and Training, participants will build a common definition of racism and explore the historic development of institutional racism in the US. We will examine ongoing realities of racism including the identity-shaping power racism has on people of color and white people; explore racism's individual, institutional and cultural manifestations; and consider the link between racism and other forms of oppression. The event will be held at First UM Church, Erie on Oct 10-12. For more information call Mary Stewart at 814-881-9141.

OCTOBER

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

Oct 1

Pick up perishables from Second Harvest 9 am Help is appreciated. Be at the Ministry Building at 9:30 a.m. distribute food at 11- 1 pm

Sign up for Christmas Basket during Food Pantry

Oct 2

Prayer Time at San Juan

Join Pastor Ray at 12:30 each Thursday for Prayer Time.

Come early and have lunch provided by City Mission.

Oct 3

Exceptional Persons Fall Retreat

Wesley woods is having a three day retreat. Harry Henderson is attending.

Oct 4

10 AM Lay Leadership Development to work on slate of officers for 2015

11 AM Saturday October 4th Finance Committee

Oct 5

Sunday school after Church services 10:30 – 11:30

Service Helpers: Greeter – Betty, Announcer – Mary, Scripture – Kathy,

Usher - Walter and Youth, Counter - Carl & Margaret

Oct 9

Prayer Time at San Juan

Join Pastor Ray at 12:30 each Thursday for Prayer Time.

Come early and have lunch provided by City Mission.

Oct 10

No office hours today.

Pick up food 9 am Help is appreciated. Be at the Ministries Building at 9:30 a.m.

11 a.m. bag food for distribution on Oct 15th

Oct 10th and 11th and 12th

Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism First United Methodist Church of Erie is hosting a conference.

Registration is necessary but it is free to attend.

Oct 12

Sunday services with Don Blystone District Lay Leader Sunday school after services.

Oct 15

Pick up perishables from Second Harvest 9 am Help is appreciated. Be at the Ministry Building at 9:30 a.m. distribute food at 11- 1 pm

Last day to sign up for Christmas Baskets during Food Pantry

Oct 16

Prayer Time at San Juan

Join Pastor Ray at 12:30 each Thursday for Prayer Time.

Come early and have lunch provided by City Mission.

Oct 17

Pick up food from Second Harvest at 9:00 a.m. Help is appreciated. Be at the Ministry Building at 9:30 a.m.

Oct 17- 18- 19

Olmsted Retreat – Henderson women will gather at Olmsted Retreat for a three day event.

Oct 19

Sunday School after Church services 10:30 – 11:30

Oct 23

Prayer Time at San Juan

Join Pastor Ray at 12:30 each Thursday for Prayer Time.

Come early and have lunch provided by City Mission.

Oct 24

Pick up food from Second Harvest at 9:00 a.m. Help is appreciated. Be at the Ministry Building at 9:30 a.m.

Oct 26

Sunday School after Church services 10:30 – 11:30

Oct 30

Prayer Time at San Juan

Join Pastor Ray at 12:30 each Thursday for Prayer Time.

Come early and have lunch provided by City Mission

Nov 1

Charge Pastor Parish Committee Meeting
10 am at Simpson Cascade Church