

July, 2018

Faith Calls...

Pastor's Thoughts

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Conference Report

Birthdays

- 7/6, Dot English
- 7/9, Ellen McCloskey
- 7/10, Billy English
Elizabeth Childs
- 7/14, Bobbye Floyd
- 7/17, Wes Gross
- 7/18, Mary Gann

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Annual Conference 2018 is finished and it was interesting, to say the least. Air travel problems and health matters upset the schedule and differences of opinion between members on The Way Forward and politics in general seemed to be a part of every issue. An old Chinese curse, "may you live in interesting times," seems to fit perfectly. No thank you.

Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr. from the Great Plains Conference (Kansas and Nebraska) was to be our guest preacher at opening worship but his plane was delayed so Bishop Mueller preached opening worship and Bishop Saenz preached Tuesday's ordination worship service. Bishop Mueller challenged us to move from opinion faith to find deeper faith. Opinion faith is based upon making Jesus what we want him to be while deeper faith is taking Jesus as he is and trusting the Holy Spirit to lead us to do things in Jesus' name we cannot accomplish on our own.

Monday opened with the Bishop's episcopal address. The Bishop encouraged us to follow the pathways of hope: God is still God, God is not finished yet, we still have all we need in Jesus Christ, and we can still experi-

ence God's "unconditional, invitational and transformational love in Jesus Christ that changes everything." Bishop Mueller reminded us, "It is not about how successful we are, it's about what Jesus' power can do."

Our business sessions began Monday and ended Wednesday morning. In addition to regular reports, administrative matters and votes, legislative matters were also considered.

- We re-voted on proposed constitutional amendment 1. Last year's vote on the measure was purged because the version sent out to the annual conferences contained wording the GC had removed. The vote totals will be reported to us after all AC's have voted again sometime after June 2019.
- A resolution supporting just and inclusive policy for lay staff was ruled out of order by the Bishop following the advice of the Conference Chancellor, Michelle Ator. Mrs. Ator's opinion expressed that resolutions should express the will of the AC in non-mandatory terms while the resolution contained language that indicated mandatory action.

- A resolution seeking that each charge conference take a straw poll on The Way Forward was defeated on a counted vote (rather than show of hands). The primary argument against the resolution was that it would put pressure on our GC delegates to vote in a particular way rather than voting their prayerful conscience.
- A Petition Affirming Current Doctrine and Discipline was defeated. The feeling of the AC was that this measure, too, sought to inappropriately influence the GC delegates.
- A petition on the Affirmation of the Movement of the Holy Spirit was defeated. The sponsors of this petition detailed the changes the Holy Spirit has made in the Methodist Church since our beginning. Also seen as an attempt to influence the GC delegates, it was defeated.
- A resolution Affirming Women in Ministry was referred to holy conferencing. The measure was prepared and submitted without any input or consultation from the major women's groups of our conference, the Conference Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) and the Clergywomen of the

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Geyer Springs Food Pantry

Worship Bulletins for Children are now available at Faith UMC. The bulletins are for ages 3-6 and 7-12. Children may choose either or both if they like. Parents might offer help at home for the more difficult version. Each bulletin corresponds to the scripture lesson Bro. David will be using each week. These may be found on the table in the foyer. Enjoy!

SAVE THE DATE...

Each Monday, 10am, Prayer Watch

Each Wednesday, 11am, Dominoes

7/1, Worship Service & Communion

7/4, Fourth of July, office closed.
No Choir Practice or Dominoes

7/13, 6:30pm, Parent's Night Out

7/17, 6:30pm, Administrative Board meeting

7/20, 6:00pm, Fish Fry

7/29, Sing-A-Long Service & Potluck

Watch for fresh produce at our Markham St. parking lot. Open Thur., Fri., and Sat.



Folks at Geyer Springs UMC stay busy with their Food Pantry. This is Bro. David's other church in Little Rock.

Every other Thursday (1st and 3rd) the pantry is open to those who are qualified to receive their goods. Sometimes as many as 250 receive service on Thursdays.

As we have all noticed, the number of homeless seems to be rising in the Little Rock area. We all feel the need to help but sometimes do not know how.

Conference Report, continued

Arkansas Annual Conference. In protest, a significant number of women clergy and laity left the bar of the Conference (walked off the floor of the arena). A vote to refer the resolution to holy conferencing was approved. In the next year, the opposing parties will come together to attempt to resolve their differences.

- The Resolution to end Child/Parent Separation in response to the Presidential administration's zero tolerance policy concerning undocumented persons was approved.
- A resolution to reestablish the Committee on Native American Ministries was approved. Rev. Angie Gage presented a portion of her introduction in the Cherokee language.



Geyer Springs always welcomes helpers. So if you desire to help, please let us know. We can give you the exact days and the times that pantry workers are needed.

Each of us can make a difference in the lives of others. Lend a hand. It will be appreciated.

During Ordination worship we witnessed the baptism of the daughter of Rev. David Reuhr (Wesley UMC, Russellville) and wife, Emily, we heard Bishop Saenz preach, commissioned and ordained new deacons and elders and shared Holy Communion.

It was a full several days to say the least. If you desire additional information about AC 2018, please go to the Arkansas Conference website, arumc.org, or contact me.

Shalom,
Bro. David



Trinette Barnes Licensed to Preach

Our own Trinette Barnes has completed her local pastor licensing school and now is considered part of the clergy of the United Methodist Church. Trinette received her certificate during this session of the Annual Conference. She intends to further her education through participation in the Course of Study looking toward a more formal connection in the clergy of the church.

As a licensed local pastor, Trinette is now eligible for appointment to any church in the conference on a part time or full time basis. Local pastors are set-apart for ministry in the churches and, while under appointment, they may do all that any clergy member in full connection may do at the church they are appointed to.

Please congratulate Trinette when you see her and continue to pray for her as she continues to discern God's call upon her life.

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

—Matthew 5:1-12

May Stats

Date	Worship	Gen. Fund
5/6	57	\$ 5,120
5/13	82	2,506
5/18	60	2,671
5/27	46	<u>2,151</u>
Total		\$12,448
Noisy Offering		\$ 80
Renovation		\$ 370

Administrative Board

Ben Allen
Trinette Barnes
Harold Bristow, Chairman
Jerry Brummett
Carolyn Eubanks
Gary Horton
Virginia McCastlain
Ellen McCloskey
Dianna Noe
Robert Rutt
Ginny Ryan
Brenda Smith

*So teach us to count
our days that we may
gain a wise heart.*

-Psalm 90:12



July, 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service, Communion	2 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	3	4 <i>4th of July</i> <i>Office closed</i>	5 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> , Alzheimer's AR RSVP 224-0021	6	7 *those in need of forgiveness
8 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	9 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	10	11 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	12	13 <u>6:30-9:30p.m.</u> , Parents' Night Out	14 *those in need of food and shelter
15 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	16 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	17 <u>6:30 p.m.</u> , Administrative Board meeting	18 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir	19	20 <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , <i>Fish Fry</i>	21 *those who are healing
22 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service	23 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	24	25 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	26 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Cure PSP	27	28 <u>Noon-6 p.m.</u> , Cochlear Implant meeting *those in need of jobs
29 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service POTLUCK	30 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	31				*Please pray for those listed above.

Scripture

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

—Ephesians 4:32