

May, 2018

Faith Calls...

Pastor's Thoughts

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A Church of the Pentecost

Birthdays

- 5/1, Theresa Harvill
5/14, Trinette Barnes
5/15, Abby Allen
Travis Traxler
5/21, Wanda Horton
5/22, Carolyn Eubanks
5/26, Anita Rutt
Jean Campbell
5/29, Bobbie Verser
5/30, Jackie Stover

Anniversaries

- 5/14, Dave & Carol Dyson
5/16, Bro. David & Kim Hoffman
5/31, Bryan & Teresa Cozart

Inside this issue:

Guest Pastor to Teach SS	2
Daily Devotionals	2
Missions at Faith	3
How to Live Your Best Life	3
March Stats	3
May Calendar	4
Scripture	4

On May 20, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. We generally recognize Pentecost as the "birthday" of the Christian church, marking the time the church began to send disciples out to spread the Good News. The greatest event of Pentecost was the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in each of those converts. No longer was the Holy Spirit an entity residing away from us and coming when necessary. We now carry the Holy Spirit as a part of our everyday life doing its work in us constantly. The Holy Spirit had become that true advocate promised by Jesus.

There is a world of symbolism present in the story of the Pentecost in the Book of Acts, each symbol drawing our attention to God's work in the church born that day.

The rushing, near gale force wind provided evidence something different was happening. Going deeper, the Greek word for spirit is "pneuma" or breath. Our breath resides in us and is

absolutely necessary for us to exist. Our breathing is so automatic we don't realize we do it. Likewise, the Holy Spirit is the breath of God, filling us and sustaining us in our spiritual life. We should strive that our faith practice be as automatic as our breath.

We very often use fire to represent the presence of God, such as with the candles we use in the church. In scripture, God led the Israelites out of Egypt with a column of fire. Think also that fire refines metals burning the lesser metals away, leaving just the pure desirable metal. The trash from the harvest is burned after the grain is removed. The tongues of fire on the heads of those gathered there was evidence the Holy Spirit was present, refining their hearts and spirits. The fire of Pentecost burns away the undesirable parts of our lives and seeks to make us people of courage, boldness and strength.

The fact that everyone spoke in their own language, while the words were heard by those present in the language they spoke so the message was understood by all. These words descended from the wind to their ears, just like the dove that came down from heaven as Jesus was baptized. Because Holy Spirit came to everyone that day, giving them the Word, it serves as strong evidence of God's intention the Good News is for everyone and God has provided for their access.

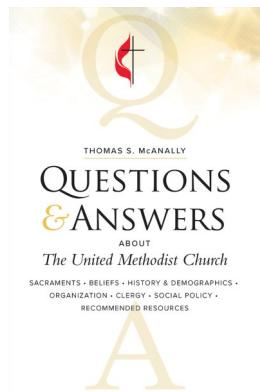
On May 20, I would ask all the members to wear red, symbolizing that we are a church born of the Pentecost. Even if red is "not your color" please be part of the celebration. Make the church seem ablaze with the believers. Show your spirit.

Shalom,

Bro. David



Guest Pastor To Teach Sunday School



SAVE THE DATE...

Each Monday, 10am, Prayer Watch
 Each Wednesday, 11am, Dominoes
 5/3, Shopping for Brady Books
 5/6, Worship Service & Communion
 5/11, 6:30pm, Parent's Night Out
 5/13, Mother's Day and Ascension Sun.
 5/15, 6:30pm, Administrative Board meeting
 5/18, 6pm, Fish Fry
 5/20, Pentecost Sunday, wear red
 5/22, 1:00, UMW meeting

Beginning Sunday, May 6, Reverend Nathaniel Grady will teach the Seekers Sunday School Class for 4 weeks. *Questions & Answers About the United Methodist Church* will be the study guide. It may be purchased for \$5 at the church.

Students will also receive *The United Methodist Handbook, Therefore, GO, Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World*. This book is free.

This will be a great review for those who joined the United Methodist Church many years ago. Perhaps there have been changes that we may not remember. Become more familiar with the Discipline through the lessons in this class.

All are invited to attend each week. The class begins at 9:45am each Sunday and will last one hour.

Reverend Grady has been an ordained Methodist minister for 61 years. He retired from The New York Conference in 2008. He served as Circuit Elder at Faith UMC for several years and was Interim Pastor here for eight months prior to Bro. David's appointment.

Become more familiar with the traditions of the United Methodist Church through the lessons presented in May. All are invited to attend this refresher course. If you are not a regular member of Seekers, please mention to Virginia that you'd like to attend. Materials will be ordered for you.

Daily Devotionals

The Upper Room is a daily devotional magazine published in 33 languages and 100 countries around the world. The daily meditations are written by readers of the magazine and others interested in sharing their faith experiences through writing—both laity and clergy, published authors and new writers. The meditations are stories of real people working to live faithfully with the Bible as their touchstone. Every day, readers of *The Upper Room* around the world read the same story in many different languages and pray the same prayer together. The daily devotional guide and the community it draws together invite people to:

- listen to scripture as God's personal message, linking their stories to God's story;
- commune with God in prayer;
- see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God's work;
- realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers; encounter the living Christ and be transformed into Christ's likeness.

A copy of *The Upper Room* is available to you at Faith UMC. Take one home today.



Gifts totaling \$567 were received on Easter Sunday in the Lenten Gift Boxes.

Thank you for your generous gifts that help with our ministries at Faith UMC.

Missions at Faith

Approximately five pounds of pop tabs were collected at Faith UMC within a year and have been turned in at the Ronald McDonald House. A collection jar is in the kitchen making it very easy for you to place your tabs. Thank you for helping to provide an overnight stay at this special home.

Ginny Ryan thanks all who contributed to "Get Up and Give". The many items were given to Methodist Family Health facilities in Arkansas. This will be a tremendous help for that organization as they care for our youth.

Thank you to those who correspond with our members who are ill or may not

be able to attend services. Your thoughtfulness and kindness helps to keep them in touch with our church. Many enjoy hearing about the events and the activities that occur. All appreciate your well wishes.



How to Live Your Best Life

A. Finding Your Purpose

1. Realize your full potential.
2. Find your place and your purpose.
3. Know your own limitations.

B. Being Mindful to Promote Happiness

1. Be mindful.
2. Be spiritual.
3. Find a helpful advisor.

C. Staying Positive in Your Life

1. Focus on the positive.
2. Be appreciative of what you have.
3. Avoid jealous thoughts and behavior.
4. Stop complaining.

D. Taking Action in Your Life

1. Live an active and healthy lifestyle.
2. Make active decisions.
3. Be proactive.
4. Be willing to invest in things that matter.

Source: wikiHow, (whose mission is to help people learn)

March Stats

Date	Worship	Gen. Fund
3/4	62	\$ 6,210
3/11	48	3,205
3/18	69	699
3/25	58	3,690
3/29	9 (Maundy Thur.)	
	Total	\$13,804
	Noisy Offering	\$ 89
	UMCOR	\$ 353

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



to all of our ladies!

May 13th

May, 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	3 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> , Alzheimer's AR (RSVP, 224-0021) <i>National Day of Prayer</i>	4	5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> *the hungry
6 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service, Communion	7 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	8	9 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	10 <u>11:30 a.m.</u> , Sr. Networking (agencies) <i>Ascension Day</i>	11 <u>6:30-9:30p.m.</u> , Parent's Night Out	12 *those who grieve
13 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service <i>Ascension Sun., Mother's Day</i>	14 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	15 <u>6:30 p.m.</u> , Administrative Board Meeting	16 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir	17	18 <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , <i>Fish Fry</i>	19 *those in need of shelter
20 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service <i>Pentecost, wear red</i>	21 <u>10:00 a.m.</u> , Prayer Watch Ministry at Faith or wherever you are	22 <u>1:00 p.m.</u> , UMW meeting	23 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Dominoes/Bring your lunch <u>6:00 p.m.</u> , Choir Practice	24 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Cure PSP	25	26 *summer vacationers
27 <u>9:45 a.m.</u> , Sunday School <u>11:00 a.m.</u> , Worship Service <i>Trinity Sun. Memorial Sun.</i>	28 <i>Memorial Day (observed)</i> <i>Office closed</i>	29	30	31		*Please pray for those listed above.

Scripture (the Ascension)

To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3)

And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)