



The Messenger Vol. 1

Our mission: Connect people in a growing, engaged, active relationship with Jesus Christ
January 14, 2015

A bi-monthly newsletter of the Shawnee United Methodist Church, www.ShawneeUMC.org
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Hello Friends,

As we begin the process of negotiating winter, and inclement weather, it's easy to long for the coming of spring. For those who find the warm weather more tempting — to think of the blossoming of the trees, the smell of fresh soil in the air, the blooming of flowers and the fragrance filling the air — it's also easy to forget that in order for spring to come, we must endure winter. And yes, it is true that some people love winter — to see the trees stripped bare of their leaves, to feel the crisp cold air on their faces, and to enjoy the fresh fallen snow — we might also remember that we can't get to winter without going through the fall. And it is equally true that some people love fall — the changing colors of the leaves with their bright oranges and reds; Mother Nature bursting into colors all around us — by now you probably get where I'm going. There is a season for everyone, a time for everyone to enjoy what God has created. But, none of those things happen without change. And for us to have such a wide diversity of what we all appreciate about changes in the weather, well — changes in our lives is something different. But it shouldn't be that way. As people of God we're supposed to embrace change; to look at change as something positive that moves us closer to God. Noted, now deceased pastor and preacher, Harry Emerson Fosdick was quoted as saying;

"Christians are supposed not merely to endure change, nor even to profit by it, but to cause it."

And if perhaps those words of a former pastor or preacher are not convincing, I wonder if the words of Holy Scripture would be more inspirational. Paul writes to the Christians living in Rome:

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

If I understand it correctly, as children of God our responsibility is to seek change, first within ourselves by how we think and understand what God wants us to do, and then impact the world we live in by the changes that God creates within us.

Change only becomes difficult when we resist it to hold on to the past, or to prevent God from doing the transforming work in our lives as we move closer to making God's kingdom existent on earth as it is in heaven. Now, that's going to take a lot of change. There's violence in our world, wars, abuse of all kinds — sexual, emotional, physical, and child abuse — all of which needs to be changed in our world. And God is counting on us to be the agents of change in a world that is missing God's will and purpose for us all. But, our change is not to be motivated by political agendas, or personal preferences. Our change is to be motivated by the power of the Holy Spirit moving and active in our lives. It's that change that will have the most impact in God's world for God's will, and we get to be full participants in it. But, this can happen only if we're willing to allow God to change our minds. And if we will allow the will of God to change our minds, I assure that changing the world is not that far off. Embrace God's change in you. The world will be a better place and God will receive the praise!

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Ron

COME & WORSHIP

8:00 & 11:00 Traditional
9:30 Praise Worship

January 25, 2015

"Spiritually Charged Life"

February 1, 2015

"The Victorious Spirit"

Sunday School
All Ages – 9:30 a.m.
Youth – 11:00 a.m.

Church Staff

Ronald King
Pastor

Connie Perry
Office Administrator

Julie Bahnson
Administrative Assistant

Nancy Carson
Director of Student
Ministries

Phyllis Stauffer
Coordinator of Children's
Ministry

Scott Fears
Chancel Choir Director

Tammy Page
Child Care Coordinator

Harry Moyer
Building Supervisor

Dominick Italiano
Custodial Assistant

Pastor Ron contact info:
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Notes from Children's Ministry



Mark your calendars! The Children's Sabbath will be February 15th. The Kindergarten through 6th graders will be participating in the service and we are preparing for it during Sunday School. Please make plans to be at worship services to support our children.

HEIFER PROJECT - THANKS

Through your generosity we donated about half an ark (which is \$5000) of animals... We actually donated \$2,590.00 to help people in third world countries. The great thing about Heifer International is that not only does your money provide animals and knowledge to the people of third world countries, but it also continues giving. Each person or family who received an animal must give an offspring to someone else the next year, so your giving has a far reaching effect. Thank you, Shawnee, for your support for this worthwhile organization.

CELEBRATION!

Please help celebrate the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Mae & Jim Torrey. A reception will be held in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, January 24th at 2:00 PM and all are invited! No gifts please.

Coughs, Sneezes, and Sniffles, Oh My!

This is the season when the Lectionary Bible Study has its Tissue (Kleenex and all brands welcome!) Drive for Merriam and Raymond Marsh Elementary Schools. We have been told that the fall supplies of tissue, collected with school supplies, are often depleted by this crucial time of year. Look for the collection box in the Chapel hallway, under the bulletin boards, January through the month of February. Thanks!!

GIFT-CARD MINISTRY...

Our Youth Ministries program uses \$5 gift cards as incentive rewards, prizes and appreciation gifts. We are in need of a variety of cards- \$5 in value from all sorts of businesses: movies, fast food, gas station, specialty stores, etc. If you're out and about and want to donate some \$5 gift cards for this purpose, please place them in Nancy Carson's box in the church office. Thank you!

Reading Fellowship News

On Thursday, January 22 at 1:00pm the Reading Fellowship Group will meet in the Parlor to discuss TRAVELS WITH CASEY, by Denziel-Lewis Benoit and/or SHOPPING by Michelle Gonzales. Does either title intrigue you? Join us for interesting discussion. Next month's selection is MRS. LINCOLN'S DRESSMAKER by Jennifer Chiaverini.

From the library...a quiet ministry

Check this out! A good beginning for 2015 might be to read our newly acquired A LEGACY JOURNEY by Dave Ramsey, financial advisor whose advice has helped so many people across our country and whose classes have been offered at our church. The book deals with such issues as "How much is enough?" "How does wealth affect your friendships, marriage and children?" "How much does God expect you to give to others?" The author says there has been a backlash against financially successful citizens, which leaves many godly folks confused about what to do with the resources God has put in their care. Are you considering a daily devotion routine but need a devotion book? Check our devotion shelves for possibilities, including some day by day, every day of the year collections. Should you chose one you would like to use for the year, don't consider it due 'til January, 2016!

ORDER YOUR "SUPERBOWL SUB SANDWICHES" TODAY!

Our youth are making those famous, delicious, foot-long subs for Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 1) again! Get your order in and support Youth summer missions & trips. We have a wide variety of meats, cheeses & toppings to choose from. Order forms are available in this newsletter and on the sales table in the Narthex at church- turn them in by Wed. Jan. 28th! Wish to help support our youth beyond buying your own subs? Take/print some order forms & take orders from friends/neighbors/family then deliver to them Feb. 1 if they're not members or unable to stop by to pick up their order!

"SAVE THE DATE": ALL-CHURCH EVENT SUNDAY, APRIL 19!

This year's annual basket-auction/dinner/show promises to be bigger & better than ever! This is an event you'll want to invite friends and family to attend with you! Our entertainment for the evening will be Christian Magician Keith Leff! Dinner for donations and the basket auction will precede the show. Plan now to attend Sunday, April 19th 5:00-7:30 p.m. (Classes and small groups are asked to contribute gift baskets for the auction)!

WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER?

Are you one of the 144? What's your special number? Is there a date, age or number that is significant to you for a special reason? Take one of the envelopes from \$1-\$144 from the board traveling around the building and turn a small donation into a multiplied miracle! This is a fundraiser for our youth summer trips. Turn envelopes into the offering plate or church office with the corresponding amount inside.

CHURCH CALENDAR
January 25 – February 8, 2015

Sunday, January 25

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308
 10:30 a.m. Youth “Brunch Bunch”, Gym
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour
 12:30 p.m. Community Dinner, Fellowship Hall
 1:00 p.m. God & Me (Grades 2-3), Room 301
 3:00 p.m. God & Family (Grades 4-5), Room 300
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

Monday, January 26

6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 3352 Den 2 (Tigers), Room 307
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 93, Fellowship Hall, Gym

Tuesday, January 27

10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Room 304
 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Rooms 304 & 306
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack 3352 (Bears), Room 300
 7:30 p.m. Open Coed Basketball, Gym

Wednesday, January 28

6:00 p.m. Youth Physical Fellowship
 6:00 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Parlor
 6:30 p.m. Boys Scout Day Camp, Room 207
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Revelations), Annex

Thursday, January 29

6:15 p.m. TOPS, Room 307
 6:30 p.m. Keystone Class Home Bible Study Group, Howard & Elaine Keling Home
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Romans), Annex
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl, Parlor
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary

Friday, January 30

Saturday, January 31

Sunday, February 1

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308
 10:30 a.m. Youth “Brunch Bunch”, Gym
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour
 1:00 p.m. God & Me (Grades 2-3), Room 301
 3:00 p.m. God & Family (Grades 4-5), Room 300
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

Monday, February 2

All Day Cross-Lines Hot Lunch, Cross-Lines
 7:00 p.m. SPRC Meeting, Library
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 93, Fellowship Hall & Gym

Tuesday, February 3

10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Room 304
 6:30 p.m. CONALD Meeting, Library
 7:30 p.m. Open Coed Basketball, Gym

Wednesday, February 4

6:00 p.m. Youth Physical Fellowship
 6:00 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Parlor
 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee, Room 304
 6:30 p.m. God & Me & Family (All Grades) – Pizza Party & Conference with Pastor, Room 300
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Revelations), Annex
Thursday, February 5

10:00 a.m. UMW Executive Meeting, Room 308
 1:00 p.m. Prayer Quilt, Room 307
 6:15 p.m. TOPS, Room 307
 6:30 p.m. Keystone Class Home Bible Study Group, Howard & Elaine Keling Home
 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Group (Romans), Annex
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl, Parlor
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary

Friday, February 6

Saturday, February 7

8:00 a.m. Trustees’ Meeting, Room 305
 10:00 a.m. Gideons Meeting, Room 307

Sunday, February 8

7:45 a.m. Prayer Time, Conference Room
 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Classes, Room 308
 10:30 a.m. Youth Brunch Bunch, Gym
 11:00 a.m. Scout Sunday Award Ceremony - During Worship Service, Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School Hour
 3:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Ron, Room 304

<u>Attendance</u>			
January 4, 2015		January 11, 2015	
8:00 a.m.	33	8:00 a.m.	61
9:30 a.m.	29	9:30 a.m.	73
<u>11:00 a.m.</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>	<u>88</u>
Total	130		224
<i>Sunday School – 49</i>		<i>Sunday School - 98</i>	

Coats & Jackets Needed

Time to think about the winter season. Yes, coat/jackets continue to be needed in all sizes for men, women and children. The wardrobe continues to be available outside the main entrance to the Chapel. The coats need to be clean and in good condition. They will be made available to Johnson County Christmas Bureau, Cross-Lines and Shawnee Community Services for persons in need. Just hang the coats in the wardrobe and each will be delivered to one of the three organizations. If you have questions, please call Dee Nelson at 913-322-1669.

REMINDER: All meetings held in the church need to be on the church calendar in a timely manner in order for the heat to be turned on for your particular area.

Newsletter News...

The next *Messenger* will be mailed out on Wednesday, January 28. All articles need to be received in the office or email julie@shawneeumc.org by Monday, January 26, 9:00 a.m. **Keep in mind that all time sensitive articles need to be 10 days or more after the date of the newsletter.**

Weekly Prayer List

Please pray for our members:

Kathy Madison
Dennis Brown & Family
Judy Petersen
Wilma McReynolds
Bob Waller
Gus Gosch
Don Kennett
Darrel LaRue
Pete Cuppage
Jess Clark
Don Sutton
Guatemala Mission Team

Please pray for our friends:

Gloria Benson
Nancy Morando
Christie Goebel
Rich & Barb Sussenbach
Francis Schumacher
Norma Moore
Dennis Newsome
Linda & Mickey Houser
Don Waddell
Mike Daniel
John Daniel
Jeanne Hoffman
Zoya Stephens

Please pray for our homebound members:

Lois McAlister
Bob & Harriet Guthrie
Beth Crane
Lois Higbee
Ruth Lund
Lorene Cobb
Virginia Hubbard
Prue Basel
Earl Love
Gifford Spaugh
Berneta Neese
Jack Richter
Doris Cathey

Please pray for our church, that God would:

- Enable us to be successful in achieving God's mission for our church to connect people in a growing, engaged, active relationship with Jesus Christ,
- Send laborers for the harvest (evangelism) *See Luke 10:2*
- Make clear God's vision for our church,
- Enable Shawnee United Methodist Church to become a House of Prayer (*See Isaiah 56:1-8*), and reveal any other prayer needs in the life of our church.

ADULT CHAPERONES FOR "YOUTH 2015"

ORLANDO TRIP NEEDED:

June 22-28 our youth will be traveling to Orlando for the once-every-four-years national United Methodist Youth gathering and we need adult chaperones! The theme will be "Go On!", focusing on the Wesleyan movement inspiring inward & outward faith. The event will be held at the World Marriott in Orlando and feature amazing speakers, concerts by top name artists, workshops & small groups delving into the theme and opportunities for mission service projects. These events are inspiring and life-changing for adults as well as our youth. Our group will be flying to Orlando and spending a recreation day at an area amusement park before the gathering.

Ways adults may join:

1.) There are a limited number of spots for "Sponsors" who will have responsibilities caring for a small group of youth the entire time. Since these adults are "on duty", attending all activities with youth and watching over them during free time, their registration fee will be paid by the group. Sponsors are asked to spearhead upcoming fundraisers to contribute toward the airfare, insurance & other group fundraising-supported costs provided them. Some meals & recreation would be at your own expense. These adults MUST be 21 or over & "Safe Gatherings" Certified by the time we depart. We need a balance of males & females in accordance with youth registrations. Sponsor slots will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

2.) Accompany the youth as an "Adult Participant" who will be an extra hand to help out, but not responsible directly for students 24/7. As participants, these adults are responsible for their own registration fee (\$425 if paid in full by Jan. 25 or \$450 by March 25 with a non-refundable \$110 deposit by 1/25). Some meals and recreation are at your own expense. These adults will also work on remaining fundraisers to help raise funds for their group-covered costs of airfare, insurance, etc.

3.) Join us as we travel, as a "Guest"- taking advantage of our group airfare to Orlando, and discounted recreation park tickets, but not as a sponsor nor adult participant (children may fall under this category as well). We'll book your airline ticket with the group and recreation discount ticket and you pay what that costs out of pocket. If you wish to attend the event, pay the registration fee of \$425/\$450 plus extra hotel costs for extra nights. You do have the option of traveling with the group but not attending the event or booking your own hotel. These adults are not required to participate in fundraising. Please contact Nancy Carson, Director of Student Ministries ASAP if you're interested in any of these options to discuss details for this exciting adventure this summer- June 22-28!



Nancy Carson, Director of Student Ministries
Contact us on Facebook: Nancy SUMC
Facebook group: "Shawnee United Methodist Youth"
E-mail: shawneeyouth@yahoo.com

WED. JAN. 21- UMYF (Youth Group)- Open gym & lounge, program, snacks, praise time, prizes & more open gym & lounge 6:00-8:00

SUN. JAN. 25- Praise Worship- Come sit with other youth 9:30, Brunch Bunch & CC (Confirmation Class) 10:30-12:00, SS (Sunday School) 11:00-12:00, "Winter Jam" \$10 for 10 bands at Sprint Center- (youth attend on own) 5:00, DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR ORLANDO "Y15" TRIP!!! (\$110 non-refundable deposit or entire \$425 early bird rate due in full!)

WED. JAN. 28- UMYF 6:00-8:00

SAT. JAN. 31- "Super Bowl Sub" Prep 10:00- (Earn fundraising hours or community service hours prepping ingredients!) 10:00-12:00

SUN. FEB. 1- "Super Bowl Sun" Assembly 8:00 (Earn fundraising hours by joining the "human conveyor belt" making subs!) 8:00, Praise Worship 9:30, Brunch Bunch & CC 10:30, SS 11-12

WED. FEB. 4- UMYF 6:00-8:00

SUN. FEB. 8- Praise Worship 9:30, Brunch Bunch & CC 10:30, SS 11:00

(Adult Chaperones interested in accompanying youth to Orlando June 22-28, please contact Nancy (shawneeyouth@yahoo.com) or at (913) 631-2280 to discuss details! Different roles/responsibilities & options available! See flyer on Youth Bulletin Board as well!)