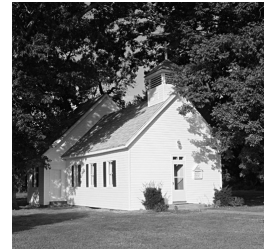




Tidings

TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL NEWSLETTER JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2012



PASTOR'S PIECE

We sing about grace. We preach about grace. We pray about grace. We talk about grace. But what is grace? Grace is a gift from God that we have done nothing to earn. Another way to put it is that for Christians, grace is the way we experience God's extraordinary love and forgiveness. In the United Methodist tradition, we recognize three movements of grace: prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying. We just covered this in our confirmation class, and I feel led to share it now with all of you.

Prevenient grace is the grace of God that has always been present in all of our lives, even before we are aware of it. God constantly seeks each of us. He does this through other people, through our experiences, and through our consciences. John Wesley compares prevenient grace with the front porch of a house. We then experience prevenient grace. God has invited us into the house, but we haven't yet accepted the invitation. We are still standing just outside the door on the porch.

The second movement of grace is justifying grace. Justifying grace is the grace that brings us into right relationship with God. It is here that we make a decision for Christ. Our confirmation material suggested we look at it this way: Justified, Just-if-ied, Just-if-I'd (as in "just as if I'd never sinned"). Considering Wesley's example of a house, justifying grace is the door to the house. When we respond to God's invitation and open the door into God's house, we are right with God and have assurance that our sins are forgiven.

The third and final movement of God's grace is sanctifying grace. United Methodists understand salvation to be a process. It is a journey that we continue on all the days of our lives, not just a one-time event. Gradually, God transforms us into the persons whom God intends for us to be. This gradual transformation is called sanctification. Prayer, service to others, study and reflection, fellowship with the family of faith, worship, and many other spiritual practices empower us to grown and mature in our faith, so that we may be more like Jesus. John Wesley likens sanctifying grace to the interior of the house. When we experience justifying grace, we enter the house. And once we're in the house, there are a lot of rooms for us to explore. Sanctifying grace is the grace that guides us when we're inside the house, helping us mature in faith and live a holy life.

As we grow deeper in our relationship with God, we grow deeper in our understanding of God's grace present in our lives. God's grace is amazing. God's grace is unending.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Maleia

Congratulations to our newest church members. We appreciate the worship service you created and delivered on May 20, and we rejoice in welcoming you as confirmed members of our congregation!

ONGOING CALENDAR

1st, 2nd & 4th Thurs

Senior Choir Practice

2nd & 4th Saturdays

Breakfast and Yard Sale

2nd Sundays

Fellowship following 11:00

Worship

2nd Wednesdays

UMW Meeting

3rd Thursdays

Administrative Council

(Subject to change in summer)

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PASTOR'S POOCH

Mom has finally gotten off the computer so I can now take over and share some thoughts with you. In the last newsletter, I mentioned the Easter Egg Hunt. I was right; I didn't get to go on the hunt with the kids, but I did have my own hunt afterwards. Over the next several days, I found six eggs. I was really excited until Mom took the candy for herself. Darn chocolate! From what I heard, overall the kids seemed to really enjoy gathering up their eggs full of goodies.

By the time you receive this, the students in the confirmation class will have had their confirmation service. At this service, they reaffirm their baptism vows and become members of the church. It is a really important day for them. I know it took Mom a bit to adjust to going to teach the class in between services, but she really enjoyed the time she got to spend with the students. She would come home and tell me how much fun they had.

Soon I'll be packing up my doggy bag and heading over to hang out with Pop-Pop. Mom will be away at Annual Conference from June 7-9. She'll go to Princess Anne and I'll go to Greenwood. I think I get the better deal. I get to lay on the sofa, sleep, watch television, eat, and get rubbed by Pop-Pop. Mom has to sit in an auditorium, listen to presentations, and vote on resolutions. She says it isn't too bad. The worship services are always meaningful, and the ordination service is one of the highlights of the conference.

I haven't had a chance to hear much about what will be happening over the summer with the churches. So, keep an eye out for announcements in the bulletin. Do remember that as the days grow hotter, please see that your outdoor pets have plenty of shade and water. I can't wait to have my pool put up. Splash! Splash!

Woof! Woof!

Scamp



INCORPORATING THE LOCAL CHURCH by Dan Gustafson, Lay Leader

Incorporation is the creation of an entity (pursuant to the laws of a state) which is capable of conducting business and otherwise acting as a legal person. In the case of local churches, this would be the creation of a non-profit corporation governed by the state of Maryland. The primary reason for the incorporation of the local church has been to insulate church members from personal liability, in the event of the local church is sued and has insufficient resources, including insurance coverage, to satisfy any judgment obtained in a legal suit. Churches and church members (such as trustees) are not immune from lawsuits and liability. Another reason to incorporate a local church is to facilitate ownership of real property by providing for the continuous legal existence of the local church.

Trappe and Faith Chapel UMC were each incorporated last year with the local attorney for the town of Trappe assisting with this legal process and all has been approved by the state of Maryland. A one-time fee was paid to the state and there is annual reporting that needs to be done in order to keep the incorporation valid. This is an important accomplishment that the UM Conference and Bishop highly recommend for all local churches.



Great note cards at a reasonable price!

See Ida to place your orders or visit Martha's Closet to make your selection and purchase. Hurry before they are all gone! More details in UMW article on p. 3 of this issue.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS by Kathy Green, UMW Secretary

We have enjoyed working on our latest project -packaging and selling pretty cards. They have a floral design, are blank inside and come with pastel envelopes. For \$1.00 you have a choice of 20 one-design cards or 14 cards, one of each design. Ida Hickman has volunteered to coordinate the project. You can order them through Ida or any UMW member. You can also buy them at Martha's Closet. The proceeds will benefit the UMW and Faith Chapel.

On June 13 you are invited to help us celebrate the end of a busy season. A supper prepared by Garden & Garnish/Brian Schmidt will be served in Wesley Hall at 6 p.m. Cost is \$13.75 per person. Please contact Leona Schmidt or Mary Rae Adams by June 3. Hope to see you there!

DAILY DEVOTIONS: CONNECTING AND COMMUNICATING WITH GOD by Cathy Sewell, Tidings Editor

I am not a very disciplined person unless I deliberately plan to be so. But from experience, I know that discipline helps life go better. For example, if I miss some of the medication I need to take, I don't feel well and other problems arise. So every Saturday I count out the meds for the next week and keep them in a container marked for each day. Through a disciplined act, I set myself up to succeed.

Medication for physical conditions helps make life good, but more importantly, I want to be well spiritually. As many of you know, I needed every bit of spiritual strength I had to get through two different kinds of cancer. Fortunately, years of Sunday School, church attendance, prayer, and the witness of others had helped me build up an arsenal of spiritual strength to carry me through, along with the generous prayers of so many of you all. I was spiritually strong and well, no matter how the physical journey played out.

Right now life is good. Each day I am full of gratitude—my spirit sings with it! However, that does not mean I can drift along, so I have been thinking about how the discipline of daily devotion helps me stay on track. Fortunately, the United Methodist Women provide a tool for devotional discipline that is easy and a pleasure to use: *The Upper Room*. This small magazine holds big rewards if you read it daily. It contains suggestions on how to use it, information on the cover art, a message from the publisher, "In Times of/for Help With" which lists scriptures to turn to in a variety of circumstances, and a theme for each day. For example, the theme for June 1 is "Worth the Wait," and it is accompanied by suggested scripture, a verse from that scripture, a brief story to illustrate the theme, a Thought for the Day, a prayer, and a suggested Prayer Focus—all on just one small page. The most important parts of daily devotion are in place for you: the inspired Word, a focused thought for meditation, prayer.

As a bonus, there is a Prayer Workshop and a plan to use *The Upper Room* in small groups. You can also have the magazine sent to someone who might find it as valuable a tool for Christian discipline as I do. Each issue covers two months. The UMW place the copies they order in the back of the sanctuary, free for anyone to take home.

The big payoff is that through this daily reading, you will be communing with God. Life is certainly richer when we deliberately and continually seek Him out, listen to what He has to say to us, and meditate on His Word. Thank you UMW for providing *The Upper Room* and helping us to grow a more disciplined Christian walk. Spiritual wellness, which develops as we connect and communicate with God, makes life good now and eternally!

UMW End of Season Celebration

6 pm Wednesday, June 13 in Wesley Hall
Food by Brian Schmidt of Garden & Garnish
Cost \$13.75 per person
Reservations: Contact Leona or Mary Rae

The Upper Room: A Place to Meet God

Learn more at <http://www.upperroom.org/>

LIBRARY NEWS by Charlotte Edwards, Church Librarian

The library continues to expand. Thank you all for your contributions.

A book, *Unbroken*, was recently donated with high praise as an inspiring story about World War 2. It is a story of "survival, resilience, and redemption" written by Laura Hillenbrand the author of *Seabiscuit*. It is the true story of three men in a life boat after their plane crashes in the Pacific Ocean. Their rescue/capture by the Japanese is captivatingly chronicled. After the war, at a Billy Graham crusade, Louis Zamperini remembers the promises he had "thrown to Heaven" during that ordeal, and redemption begins. This is the story of a forgotten hero. This book will also appeal to sports fans as Louis was a runner who had the Berlin Olympics and the 4 minute mile as his goals before the war. Looks like good reading.

If you like audio books, another new addition is *Have a Little Faith* written and read by Mitch Albom. I loved it. After his Rabbi asks him to write his eulogy, the author begins to understand him through weekly visits away from the church. At the same time he is helping another minister, an ex-con who is struggling to keep his church and homeless ministry alive. As he gets to know both men, he realizes that they have both been teaching him "the profound comfort of believing in something bigger than yourself". This is a great book to listen to in your car. That way you can always have two books going.

Happy reading and listening.

MORE ON OUR LIBRARY COLLECTION by Russell "Sonny" Leonard

Two books donated to the Mrs. C Edwards Library intended mainly for the young folks might make good book reports for a literature class and also serve as a way to witness to schoolmates.

The first by Laura Hillenbrand, *Unbroken*, is the story of WWII prisoners of war in Japanese camps. The prisoners ditched their B-24 due to mechanical engine failure. Several main characters (Louie Zamperini and Phil Phillips) rode a raft for 40 days after the crash, but then were taken prisoners in Japan. They suffered many abuses. When they were liberated and taken home to the USA, they had much trauma and distress, such as nightmares. Louie said he was not free from the war until 1949, four years after his military release. He got peace after most of the anger and hate was gone from his soul. That was a result of his presence at a Billy Graham crusade. There is an excellent scripture reference (John 16) in Chapter 38 of the book which was the theme of Graham's sermon. Afterward Louie worked with Youth for Christ, helping boys who could not get along in society.

At one point in the Japanese POW camp, Louie referred to Frederick Douglass on what it was like to be under other people's control 24 hours a day, week after week, month after month. It kills the spirit and dignity. God and prayer are the main hope, plus a strong will.

Phil, the pilot of the plane, was a minister's son. He also was a POW. Many other characters, both American and Japanese, are in the book. Hillenbrand interviewed several Japanese POW guards as well as thoroughly researching military documents. She interviewed Louie 75 times, as well as his mother, brother, sisters, and others, and studied letters sent home. Phil was not willing to talk much about his experiences, but did give a detailed account of some of his troubles. His daughters also were interviewed. Phil feared airplanes and would not fly again because of this experience.

Louie ran in the 1936 Olympics and had a run-in with Hitler. There is much more information in the book, and eager readers can learn more by borrowing it from the church library.

[ED. Note: It's interesting that both Charlotte and Sonny wrote about *Unbroken*. A double recommendation—it must be good!]

(article continued on next page)

MORE ON OUR LIBRARY COLLECTION (continued)

The second book by local writer Gilbert Byron, *The Lord's Oyster*, tells about Noah, a youngster of about 11 years in age, and his experience on the waters of the Chester, Wye and other rivers, as well as the Eastern side of the Bay. Many tales and legends gotten from old captains, watermen, and students in Byron's classes are included in the book.

Mr. Byron was my teacher/mentor at Easton High School in 1953-54. Later we kept in touch. He filled me in on school politics, politics in general, and Maryland in particular.

I hope to get some feedback on these books and your impressions of them. Contact me at j.r.leonard3354@aol.com

CHARLES ADAMS RECEIVES THE ST. BARNABAS AWARD

On Friday, May 11, Charles Adams received the St Barnabas award in recognition of his dedication and service to the United Methodist Church. To receive the award, a person must be nominated by his home church and be supported with letters of recommendation from that church. Certainly anyone who is aware of at least some of what Mr. Adams does for the church would confirm he epitomizes the spirit of the award.

The St. Barnabas Award is unique to the Peninsula-Delaware Conference, recognizing those who practice Christian stewardship in unseen ways. The recipient must be committed to living a life for Christ. Four measures are used to determine worthiness: time, talent, targeted prayer, and treasure. Certainly Mr. Adams has given of his time and talents, prays as part of his private and public worship, and treasures the church and its place in our community.

Mr. Adams teaches Sunday School and has served on just about every committee in the church. He is a certified Lay Speaker, and along with his wife, Mary Rae, attends the Lay Speaker Academy faithfully. He sees to repairs and maintenance of our church property, and if he meets someone interested in attending church, he is the first to invite that person to join us. He and Mrs. Adams began the Archives Room which houses many pieces of the church's history. If there is anything you would like to know about that history, just ask Mr. Adams. These are just a few of the many ways Mr. Adams has worked for the church.

Congratulations from all of us here on the Trappe-Faith Chapel Charge. You inspire us to walk the walk!

CHAUTAUQUA 2012

INSPIRATION, UNITY, PREPAREDNESS, COURAGE: MARYLAND AND THE WAR OF 1812

Chautauqua 2012 commemorates the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Performances are free.

Please note that schedule details may be subject to change.

EASTON: IDLEWILD PARK/LONDONDERRY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
115 Idlewild Avenue/ 700 Port Street, Easton

7:00 PM music/7:30 PM performance

In case of severe weather, program will be held indoors in the Avalon Theatre

Monday, July 9 Major General Robert Ross (Idlewild Park)

Tuesday, July 10 Rosalie Stier Calvert (Londonderry Retirement Community)

Wednesday, July 11 Francis Scott Key (Idlewild Park)



THINK GOD CAN'T USE YOU? Author Unknown

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember:

Abraham was too old;
Isaac was a daydreamer;
Jacob was a liar;
Joseph was abused;
Moses stuttered;
Gideon was afraid;
Jeremiah and Timothy were too young;
Jonah ran from God;
Job went bankrupt;
Peter denied Christ;
The disciples fell asleep while praying;
Martha worried about everything;
Zaccheus was too small;
Paul was too religious;
Timothy had an ulcer; and
Lazarus was dead!

Now! No more excuses! God can use you to your full potential.

Besides you aren't the message, you are just the messenger!

Administrative Council Highlights

May 17, 2012

- There will be a Strawberry Shortcake Fellowship after the services on Sunday, June 10, in lieu of the Strawberry Festival.
- UMW Summer Social 6:00 pm June 13. All are invited. Make reservations by June 1.
- John Sewell's appointment to fill a vacancy on the PPRC Committee was confirmed.
- Annual Conference is June 7-9 at UMES.
- Pastor Maleia will attend a retreat June 24-29.
- Garden Clean-Up is set for June 2 at 8:30 am
- Kathie Wagner will speak at the August 12 worship services about the Shoe Box Project.

GREETERS AND USHERS by Ellen Whitby, Head Usher

I want to thank all the Greeters and Ushers. They did a good job. God bless them all.

Greeters

June: Drake and Elizabeth Ferguson

July: Estelle Slaughter and Ellen Whitby

August: Jimmy and Honey Townsend

Ushers

June: Drake and Elizabeth Ferguson

July: Estelle Slaughter and Ellen Whitby

August: Newton Williams and Bo Nelson

Since summer will be here, I hope everyone has a safe summer. Thank you and God bless—from Ellen.

Help Wanted Ads

- * Choir members
- * Cooks, servers, clean up crew, etc. for the breakfasts
- * Gardeners (especially for June 2)
- * Sunday School personnel
- * Bakers for bake sales
- * Assistants for yard sales
- * Shut-in visitors
- * Card writers and senders
- * Phone callers
- * Prayer line members
- * Tidings reporters
- ⇒ **Whatever your talents or interests, God NEEDS you!**
- ⇒ **Benefits are out of this world!**
- ⇒ **Equal Opportunity Employer**

Peninsula/Delaware Conference Night with the Shorebirds

Friday July 13, 7:05 pm at Perdue Stadium

\$22.50 includes buffet

**Mail ticket orders to
Christine Paulino
139 N. State Street**



June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Garden Cleanup 8:30 am
3 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	4	5	6 Yard Sale 8:30-noon	7 Annual Conference at UMES	8 Annual Conference at UMES	9 Breakfast & Yard Sale 7:30 -10 am Annual Conference at UMES
10 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. 11 am Trappe Strawberry Fellowship	11	12	13 Yard Sale 8:30-noon UMW End of Year Celebration 6 pm	14	15	16
17 Father's Day 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	18	19	20 Yard Sale 8:30-noon	21 Admin Council 7 pm	22	23 Breakfast & Yard Sale 7:30 -10 am
24 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	25	26	27 Yard Sale 8:30-noon	28	29	30

July 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1</i> 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Happy 4th of July!	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>8</i> 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> Yard Sale 8:30-noon	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> Breakfast & Yard Sale 7:30 -10 am
<i>15</i> 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Yard Sale 8:30-noon	<i>19</i> Admin Coun- cil 7 pm	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>22</i> 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> Yard Sale 8:30-noon	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> Breakfast & Yard Sale 7:30 -10 am
<i>29</i> 8:45 am Faith 9:45 Sun. Sch. (Adults classes only) 11 am Trappe	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>				

August 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4
 Yard Sale
 8:30-noon

5 6 7 8 9 10 11
 8:45 am Faith
 9:45 Sun. Sch.
 (Adults classes
 only)
 11 am Trappe
 Yard Sale 8:30
 -noon
 Breakfast &
 Yard Sale
 7:30 -10 am

12 13 14 15 16 17 18
 8:45 am Faith
 9:45 Sun. Sch.
 (Adults classes
 only)
 11 am Trappe
 Yard Sale 8:30
 -noon Admin Council
 7 pm

19 20 21 22 23 24 25
 8:45 am Faith
 9:45 Sun.
 Sch. (Adults
 classes only)
 11 am Trappe
 Yard Sale
 8:30-noon
 Breakfast &
 Yard Sale
 7:30 -10 am

27 28 29 30 31
 8:45 am Faith
 9:45 Sun.
 Sch. (Adults
 classes only)
 11 am Trappe
 Yard Sale
 8:30-noon
 Watch for an
 announce-
 ment about
 the Commu-
 nity Service in
 the Park