

THUSE NEWS JULY 2018

SOUTH PARKERSBURG UMC

TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN

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PASTORS MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone here at South Parkersburg United Methodist Church. What a wonderful "Welcome Back!" celebration you honored us with this past Sunday! Thank you for your many expressions of love and generosity. It was great to share a meal and spend time together as a family. That is who you have become to us – our family. With the passage of time come memorable events that I hold dear from these past five years. Most especially the times we spent together in Worship and study, holding each other up in prayer, celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, marriages, baptisms and welcoming new babies into the church family! We have also shed tears together, as families often do, during times of loss. Through the good times and the bad, we have celebrated the faith we have in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

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Are you still looking for a Sunday School Class to attend following Sunday morning Worship? If so, visit the Bible Believers Class in the classroom off the downstairs Gathering Area. I lead this class with lessons ranging from Bible Study to seasonal studies during Lent and Advent to glean the lesson from an episode of "The Andy Griffith Show" (Barney still cracks me up!). I invite you to give us a try this coming Sunday. All are welcome!

Vacation Bible School begins on Sunday, July 8, 2018 and continues through Thursday, July 12, 2018. The opening will start at 6:00 P.M. in the CFC with skits and songs. The Adult Class will begin in the sanctuary at 7:00 P.M., but plan to attend the opening in the CFC each evening before class. That way, when the children sing on Sunday morning, July 15 during the morning worship service, you can sing along.

Mark your calendar for the Parish Picnic on Sunday afternoon, July 29, 2018 at D.E.R.C. Park (DuPont Park), 9938 DuPont Rd., Washington, WV, at the far shelter, Shelter #5. We plan to gather around 4:00 P.M., eat at 4:30 P.M., and share in a devotional time at 5:15 P.M. The pool will be open from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided, so bring other "picnic foods" to share, plus your lawn chairs and join the fellowship.

As we begin another year in ministry together, I am excited to discover the challenges and the treasures God has in store for us as a part of His Family.

*May God continue to use each one of us as vessels of His grace,
mercy and love.*

Blessings and Prayers,

Pastor Jim

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY



SUMMER SPARK is off to a great start with children ages 3 years old through 5th grade meeting every other Wednesday evening from 6:30 – 7:30 P.M. for Bible stories, crafts, music, and other activities. VBS will take the place of SPARK on Wednesday, July 11th, but plan to bring the kids on July 25th and August 8th for the remaining SUMMER SPARK sessions. Regular weekly SPARK will resume in September.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 8TH – 12TH
6:00 – 8:30 P.M.
Ages 3 years old - 5th Grade
Adult Study 7:00 – 8:00 P.M

Several of our children and youth are registered to attend **SUMMER CAMPS** at our local Crossroads District Camp and Spring Heights Conference Camp near Spencer, WV. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to gather with other children and youth in a natural setting where they share experiences to encourage and equip them on their Christian journey. Memories of summer camp hold a very special place in many of our hearts. Please support them with your prayers, as they participate in these upcoming camps!

Our **YOUTH GROUP** is taking a mini-mission trip to Huntington on Sunday and Monday, July 1 – 2. They will be attending the musical SHREK in Huntington's Ritter Park Ampitheatre on Sunday evening. On Monday, they will be delivering Prayer Squares they have made from fleece fabric to the director of The Lifehouse, an addiction recovery center. They will also tour the Ronald McDonald House near Cabell Huntington Hospital and deliver baby blankets and caps made by members of our congregation. Pray for these youth, as they travel and learn about various ways that they can serve others in Jesus' name. Plans are being made for future mission trips within our conference and beyond.

Jennifer

WELCOME BACK PASTOR JIM & JENNIFER



THE UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM will be sponsoring a Father/Son Cookout on Saturday, July 28th... Stay tuned for details of this event...

BOY SCOUTS – KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

This program provides cash rewards to our Boy Scout Troop by members who simply buy goods at Kroger stores (excluding gas, alcohol, & tobacco products). Below are the instructions for signing up online for the Rewards program if you currently have, or do not have, a Kroger card:

- Open browser and type **Kroger.com** into the address bar and click ENTER to get to the Kroger web site.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page to the COMMUNITY column and CLICK on **Kroger Community Rewards**.
- If you already have a Kroger Account, CLICK on **Sign In** and enter your User name and Password.
- If you do not have a Kroger Account, CLICK on **Create An Account** to set up your account. You will need to link your Kroger Card to your Account with the Care Number. Then you can set the Community Rewards in the Account Settings.
- To set the Rewards to Boy Scout Troop 17, set:

ORGANIZATION NAME: South Parkersburg United Methodist Church
ORGANIZATION NUMBER: 83580

Once set up, you can enter the web site to update your settings or check on the last quarter donations from Kroger under your account. If you have any problems or questions signing up in the Program, call Joel Thompson at 304-482-2742 This is a great opportunity to financially support our Boy Scout Troop!!!

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Due to VBS, the UMW will not meet in July

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

THE PARSONAGE

Prior to 1939, the pastors of the church had lived in their own homes and the Conference had agreed to pay their rent. However, a suitable rental was not available for the new Pastor, Rev. Kelbaugh, in 1939. He suggested that a six-room house across the street from the church that was for sale be purchased at a price of \$3,300 for a parsonage using the rental the Conference was paying for monthly payments. The church would have to raise the \$500 needed for the down payment. The Trustees consented and a vote of approval was unanimous by the Official Board. Before Christmas of 1939, the Pastor was living in the new Church parsonage. A little later one half of a lot was purchased for \$300 which lies parallel to the parsonage property.



The parsonage was purchased from Ravenswood Building & Loan Company and they would not make us a deed for the house until it was paid for. Being a rental property before we purchased it, it was being taxed at a double rate which the loan company was passing on to us. So the church borrowed \$2,500 from the Preachers Aid Fund and paid the Loan company in full... The property was now tax free. On the 2nd Sunday of 1944 enough money was raised to fully repay the Preachers Aid Fund debt. This day was the 19th anniversary of when the 1st shovel of dirt was dug for the church basement back in 1925.

In 1992 Mrs. Anna Gault bestowed a cash gift of \$100,000 to construct a new parsonage. A committee was established to review the possibility of locating the new parsonage on the existing parsonage site, to review other locations in the immediate area of the church, and to examine other potential sites in the city. The pros and cons of each location were weighed before choosing the current Mt. Vernon Circle location. A special Charge Conference was held in October where the 1820 Mt. Vernon Circle site was described, a layout of the proposed construction was illustrated, and approval to sell the existing parsonage was requested. Under the direction of the District Superintendent, Dr. Dan Johnson, a congregational vote was taken where overwhelming support of the entire plan was expressed.



Rev Peggy Scharff, Anna Gault, & Bruce Bumgarner breaking ground.

New Parsonage under construction in 1993

Two adjoining lots on Mt. Vernon Circle were purchased and the finalized draftsman floor plan for the house was given to 4 contractors for bids. Dennis Reed submitted the lowest bid and the contract to begin construction was signed in December. A groundbreaking ceremony was held after church that month with Anna Gault, Rev. Peggy Scharff, and Bruce Bumgarner turning the 1st shovel of dirt with a 3-handled shovel in windy, freezing temperatures. An appraiser was contacted to recommend a selling price for the existing parsonage. It was decided to offer the property to members or friends of the church before listing the house with a realtor. Jennifer Hupp, Youth Director, purchased the house and lot on April 21, 1993.

The new parsonage was completed in April of 1993. Peggy moved in on Friday, April 30th and an Open House was held on June 20th with over 100 people touring the new home. On August 29th, 1993, a Dedication Service for the new parsonage was held. Sadly, Anna Gault had passed away in May shortly after visiting the new parsonage and was not on hand for the Service. Many dignitaries spoke at the Dedication, Rev. Peggy Scharff served communion, and attendees were given refreshments and a tour of the house immediately following the service.



BIBLE QUIZ

The questions in this month's newsletter are again from the Gospel of Mark. After each question is the Chapter and Verse in parenthesis showing you where you can find, or check, your answers. Good Luck!!!

1. What is the real danger in having the possession of lots of money? (Mark 10:24)
2. Who were the 2 sons of Zebedee and what did they request of Jesus? (Mark 10:35-37)
3. Who did Jesus meet on His journey near Jericho that was blind? (Mark 10:46)
4. As Jesus approached Jerusalem what did he ask 2 of his disciples to go into the city to get for him? (Mark 11:2)
5. Where did Jesus spend the nights of this week? (Mark 11:11)
6. When we stand praying, what kind of spirit does Jesus require us to have? (Mark 11:25-26)
7. What was the one question that Jesus asks the scribes and chief priests in the temple? (Mark 11:29-30)
8. In the parable of the tenants, what happened to the servants that came to receive the fruits of the vineyard? What did the tenants do to the only son and the heir of the vineyard? (Mark 12:2-8)
9. What should a Christian remember when he hears reports of miracle workers and Messiahs? (Mark 13:21-23)
10. Who alone knows the exact time of the second coming of Jesus Christ? (Mark 13:32)

BRIDGE TO HAWAII

A man walking along a California beach was deep in prayer. All of a sudden, he said out loud, "Lord, grant me one wish." Suddenly, the clouds in the sky parted above his head and in a booming voice the Lord said, "Because you have TRIED to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish." The man said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can drive over anytime I want to walk and pray on their beautiful beaches."

The Lord said, "Your request is very materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking. The supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific ocean! The concrete and steel it would take! I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of another wish, a wish you think would honor and glorify me."

The man thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, "Lord, I wish that I could understand women. I want to know how they feel inside, what they are thinking when they give me the silent treatment, why they cry, what they mean when they say 'nothing', and how I can make a woman truly happy." After a few moments the Lord replied, "Did you want 2 lanes or 4 lanes on that bridge?"