



## VOCATION<sup>1</sup>

It comes from the Latin *vocare*, to call, and means the work a man is called to by God.

There are all different kinds of voices calling you to all different kinds of work, and the problem is to find out which is the voice of God rather than of Society, say, or the Superego, or Self-Interest.

By and large a good rule for finding out is this. The kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (*a*) that you need most to do and (*b*) that the world most needs to have done. If you really get a kick out of your work, you've presumably met requirement (*a*), but if your work is writing TV deodorant commercials, the chances are you've missed requirement (*b*). On the other hand, if your work is being a doctor in a leper colony, you have probably met requirement (*b*), but if most of the time you're bored and depressed by it, the chances are you have not only bypassed (*a*) but probably aren't helping your patients much either.

Neither the hair shirt nor the soft berth will do. The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.

Where do your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet? That is a good question for each of us to ponder as we begin a New Year. How is God calling each of us individually to embrace the world God loves so much that he sent his son to save it?

Howard Thurman was asked what needed to be done in the world. He said: "Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive." What makes you come alive?

These are not only good questions to ask ourselves individually. They are good questions to ask ourselves as a community of faith. Where does our deep gladness as Riverside United Methodist Church and Muncie's deep hunger meet? How is God calling us as the part of the body of Christ called Riverside to embrace the world God loves so much that he sent his son to save it? What makes us as a community of faith come alive?

Helping people realize that they are God's beloved children brings me deep gladness. Engaging in conversations where people are able to see themselves as God's beloved children also meets a deep hunger in many people. At a New Warrior Weekend I developed a personal mission statement. It still resonates within me. "As a man among men my mission is to liberate the light of God within me to empower all others to liberate the light of God within them." Later on a Men's Rites of Passage I was drawn to Psalm 22:22, "I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you."

I want to hear where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. I want to hear what brings you alive. I want to hear where you see Riverside's deep gladness and Muncie's deep hunger meeting. I want to hear what you believe will make Riverside come alive. Make an appointment to talk with me or call me @ 278-8733 or e-mail me @ [john.young@inumc.org](mailto:john.young@inumc.org).

As we begin another New Year together may we find and fulfill our vocation from God as individuals and collectively as a community of faith. Please pray for discernment of God's call on your life and on our life together. Please pray for our Fruitful Congregations Team as we study and learn together.

May you be deeply glad and come fully alive as you serve a hungry world in the name of Jesus the Christ in 2013.

Shalom in Christ,

John A. Young

1. Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC* (Harper & Row, New York, 1973), 95.

## BIRTHDAYS

January	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mary Jane Eiler
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Laura Shadoin
12 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Reese
15 <sup>th</sup>	Kay Farling
16 <sup>th</sup>	Pauline Miller
20 <sup>th</sup>	Drew Pittenger
30 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Speece
31 <sup>st</sup>	Jordan Murphy

February	
1 <sup>st</sup>	LaVerne Lemaster
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Schumacher
6 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Watson
7 <sup>th</sup>	Darwin Keyton
8 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley Modesitt
9 <sup>th</sup>	Inga Hill
10 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Terhune
14 <sup>th</sup>	Andy Pittenger
15 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Kendall
19 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Campbell
21 <sup>st</sup>	Betty Bailey

## *Anniversaries*

### **February**

26<sup>th</sup> Tom and Janet Schamp

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**LaVerne Lemaster**  
**100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration!**

**Westminster Village**  
**Friday, February 1, 2013**  
*(time to be announced)*

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## Riverside Photo Directory Online

Are you aware that you can access the Riverside Photo Directory online? Simply log onto the Riverside website [www.riversideumcmuncie.org](http://www.riversideumcmuncie.org) and click on On-Line Photo Directory from the menu. The photo album site is password protected. The password is available by calling the church office 288-4257.

January-February 2013 - REMINDER

**HOSTS & MINGLERS**

Date	Outside Door	Inside Door	Lobby Mingler	Sanctuary Mingler
Jan 6	Fred & Bob Wallace	Herb Blank	Karen Blank	Laura Shadoin
Jan 13	Jack Stanton & Dorothy Bowman	Amy Clevenger	Mary Schumacher	Cindy Miller
Jan 20	Jerry & Ann Golden	Barry Turner	Judy Turner	Nancy Campbell
Jan 27	Jack Richardson & Rex Pittenger	Donna Pittenger	Jennifer McGunegill	Jo Ann Ware
Feb 3	Joe & Judy VanWinkle	Ann Beuoy	Hester Mitchell	Marge Salisbury
Feb 10	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Wilma Carney	Odessa DeHaven	Virginia Sharp
Feb 17	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Susan Reno	Betty Lacey	Linda Keyton
Feb 24	Larry & Nancy Campbell	Marlene Boyer	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
Mar 3	Frank & Betty Campbell	Wilma Carney	Hester Mitchell	Janet Schamp
Mar 10	Susan Reno & Wilma Grile	Odessa DeHaven	Sandy Jordan	Kay Rankin
Mar 17	John & Sara McKillip	Sandy Abbott	Susan Reno	Pat Ashcraft
Mar 24	Jack Stanton & Dorothy Bowman	Darwin Keyton	Linda Keyton	Sandy Hunter
Mar 31	Fred & Bob Wallace	JoAnn Ware	Sara Mitchell	Pat Brown
Apr 7	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Hester Mitchell	Sandy Abbott	Betty Campbell
Apr 14	Jerry & Ann Golden	Linda Keyton	Donna Pittenger	Wilma Grile
Apr 21	Joe & Judy VanWinkle	Earlene Harvey	Dorothy Bowman	Bob Harvey
Apr 28	Dick & Ruth Garringer	Jo Ann Ware	Virginia Sharp	Pat Ashcraft
May 5	Ron Brown & Larry Campbell	Nancy Campbell	Sandy Hunter	Fred Wallace
May 12	Bob & Earlene Harvey	Pat Brown	Marge Salisbury	Karen Blank
May 19	Susan Reno & Sandy Hunter	Linda Keyton	Janet Schamp	Hester Mitchell
May 26	Jack Stanton & Wilma Grile	Virginia Sharp	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
June 2	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Ann Beuoy	Pat Ashcraft	Dorothy Bowman
June 9	Jerry & Ann Golden	Sandy Hunter	Betty Lacey	Mary Schumacher
June 16	Fred & Bob Wallace	Sandy Jordan	Sara Mitchell	Marlene Boyer
June 23	Jack Richardson & Pat Ashcraft	Sandy Abbott	Wilma Grile	Janet Schamp
June 30	Joe & Judy VanWinkle	Susan Reno	Earlene Harvey	Bob Harvey

## Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

- The IHOP Breakfast Group for donating \$300 toward the construction of the wheelchair ramp recently built by the Riverside Helping Hands guys.
  - Everyone who helped "Hang the Greens."
  - Melinda Shocklee for creating the beautiful centerpieces and those who helped prepare the meal for the Kids' Hope Christmas Party.
  - The Small Group leaders during the 40 Days in the Word study series.
  - To everyone who volunteered to be liturgists during 2012.
  - The Media Team: Dale and Debra DeHaven, Mick and Jan Phelps and Tom and Janet Schamp for faithfully serving in this important ministry.
  - The Salvation Army wishes to thank Riverside, on behalf of all the people in the community who will benefit due to your continuing gifts.
  - To everyone who supported the Heifer project with your donations.
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## Your Endowment Income at Work

A few of the recent purchases with the income from our endowment fund:

- The books and programs for our 40 DAYS IN THE WORD series
- Bracelets for PRIME THE PUMP fundraiser
- Projector for our sanctuary screen
- Computer with more capacity to use with projector

Thanks to all and praise GOD for those funding our endowment.

## Mission News

GREAT NEWS from Sierra Leone, West Africa! The \$8,212 that we raised through DIG DEEP – PRIME THE PUMP was used to restore TWO wells that had been destroyed during the civil war. Now there are two working wells, one at the Secondary school and one at the Primary school, and some money left to go toward a third well. Your contributions helped make a difference in the lives of many people in Baoma, a village in Sierra Leone by providing clean, safe water.

In November, Riverside collected \$260 for the Veterans Gift Card Project. Twenty-five items were donated to the YWCA. Our Heifer Project is off to a great start! Many people have purchased animals, and the Builders Class bought a heifer. We are very close to reaching our goal of \$1,200 to spread "Joy to the World." The Mission Committee appreciates everyone's contributions to these outreach programs.

2013 offers several opportunities to share God's love and help serve in our community. Covenant Partners is in need of volunteers to help with Community Day, the fourth Wednesday of each month. If you can help with this project, see Susan Reno or call (284-0856). Volunteers are needed the week of February 3-9 to help prepare meals for the Men's Sleep Room. Sign-up sheets will be posted later in January.

On February 27, 28, and March 1, volunteers will be needed to work at the Christian Ministry's Food Pantry.

*The Mission Committee thanks everyone for their continued support.*

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## Walk-a-Mile in My Shoes

Save the date of February 9, 2013. This is the date of the annual Walk-a-Mile fund raising event. If you've attended in the past then you already know the thrill and pride you feel as you are walking alongside your friends and neighbors as you support the people who call the Muncie Mission their home. Remember we all meet at 8:00am at the Muncie Central Fieldhouse to get registered, and the walk to the Mission begins at 9:00am. Information regarding how you can donate will be available at the church. For more information click the following link: [www.munciemission.org](http://www.munciemission.org).



## Fruitful Congregations Journey

Your Fruitful Congregations Journey Team has been busy over the past few months reading the assigned books, meeting monthly with the lay people in other United Methodist churches that are on the same journey, and meeting monthly with Pastor John. An exciting part of this journey is coming together monthly with the lay people from the other churches. Those churches are Yorktown, Portland Trinity, Marion - Center Chapel, Gethsemane, Winchester, and Corinth. These sessions are led by Jeremy Neckers. Jeremy helps us to understand and recognize the resources we have available and how best to use them. During our times together we hear how the lay people are reaching out to people in the community in various ways. Our team members understand the importance of this project and the impact it will have on the future of Riverside. Your prayers that we will learn how to best use the information we are gaining is appreciated.

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## Notes from Our Church Family

"Our family and friends appreciated the wonderful meal you all provided. Everything was so delicious and nothing was wasted. All of you ladies provided us with such a comfortable atmosphere. You are all so kind! Thanks so much. It means so much to have friends like you and the church. May God bless you all." *Julia Cougil, Catheryn Prizzola and family*

"To all those who attended the going-away luncheon – You are all very special people and thank you for being there. It really touched my heart. I will miss you all so much. This is a new experience for me, and I know I will think of you and wonder what is going on at Riverside. May God bless and keep you. My prayers are with you always!"  
*Kay Farling, 8905 Evergreen Avenue, Indianapolis IN 46240*

"Greetings – Thank you for the beautiful flowers and all the thoughts and prayers. I don't know what I would do without you. *Dorothy Bowman*

"Thank you to the choir for the Texas Roadhouse gift card. Sister and I have already enjoyed a wonderful meal." *Julia Pittenger*

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## Cluster News

Riverside has joined six other United Methodist churches to form the North Cluster Group. The six churches are Center Chapel, College Avenue, Gethsemane, High Street, Selma Christ, and Selma United. Together with God's help, we hope to make a difference in our community.

Did you know that Ball State does not have a United Methodist College Ministry? Well, that's about to change. The Cluster has been meeting with Ryan Miller from CCO (Coalition for Christian Outreach) to start an on-campus ministry. The goal of this relationship is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. CCO will work with the Cluster churches to help students love Jesus intimately, view the world Biblically, live obediently, join Christ's restoration of creation, invite others to do likewise and to connect to the local UMC churches.

## Therapy Dog Sessions

Therapy dog sessions will take place at Riverside again in 2013 with sessions in February, April, July, and November. Please contact Deb Dolak 765-288-2514 or 2sibes@comcast.net for more information about this wonderful course and ministry possibilities following successful completion of the classes.

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## Weather Related Church Closing Information

The Trustees wish to advise you that if the city declares a snow or other emergency and requests that travel be restricted to essential or emergency travel only, Sunday services will be cancelled. This would also pertain to any meetings scheduled during the week. We, however, encourage you to use good judgment when the streets and roads are hazardous to travel or when a State of Emergency has not been declared.

If a meeting is cancelled, please contact Tom Schamp (765) 749-4410. He will contact WLBC 104.1, WTHR Ch 13 and Fox 59 Ch 11. An e-mail will be sent to those who have given their e-mail address to the church. If possible, an announcement will also be placed on the church's answering machine. If in doubt, please call the church 288-4257 or Pastor Young at 288-3826 or his cell at 278-8733. Committee chairs may also consider establishing a telephone chain call procedure for their committee.

If a snow or other emergency prohibiting travel is not declared we will have church for those who can make it safely to Riverside. If you do not feel safe traveling to church, please stay home. If you have a responsibility at church for the Sunday in question, please stay home, but notify the church of your decision to do so. That will keep us from worrying about you being stuck in the snow and allow us to recruit a replacement among those who are able to travel.

You don't have to be in church to worship God. Jesus in John 4 tells the Samaritan woman that location doesn't matter. We are to "worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23). However, Luke tells us that "on the Sabbath day [Jesus] went into the synagogue, as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). And Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

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## Emergency Preparedness Info....

The site below contains a good emergency preparedness plan and check-off form for individuals and families. Visit --

<http://www.co.delaware.in.us>

News and Notices

Click on the "6 Month . . ." link

## Winter Lay Academy

Learning and leading courses fulfill a two-fold purpose. They equip all of us to become better Christian leaders, and they provide advanced courses for Lay Speaking Ministries.

If you are not currently a lay speaker you may be interested in pursuing that office once you have experienced the courses.

The emphases in Lay Speaking Ministries are LEADING, CARING and COMMUNICATING. We all need good communication skills to lead others and share our faith stories, but **YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO PREACH** (unless that is your desire) after taking a lay speaking or learning and leading course.

**February 3 thru March 10**

**Muncie Riverside UMC 1201 N Wheeling Avenue**

**2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Registration forms can be found on the table in the Narthex.**

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**Sub Sandwiches!**

## Fundraiser For Kids Hope Day Camp

We will be selling 6" Sub sandwiches on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2013. We will be taking orders for your sandwiches on January 20th and January 27th through the bulletin.

Your choice will be Ham, Turkey or Ham and Turkey. Please be ready to place your order on January 20th or January 27th. The sandwiches may be picked up after church on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Payment may be made at that time.

Thanks,  
*The Kids Hope Serve Camp Committee*