



May-June Reminder

On Easter Sunday we stood and sang, “Christ has brought us heaven’s choices; heavenly music, let it ring” and “Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o’er his foes; he arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.” As we sang of heaven’s choices, I noticed the chicken wire around the base of the cross and thought how appropriate that was. The chicken wire at the base of the cross reminded me of Peter’s denial of Jesus three times before the rooster crowed. On Palm/Passion Sunday, the week before, the chicken wire was covered with red cloth reminding us of Christ’s blood shed in his passion and we placed our palm leaves at the base of the cross as we sang Hosanna’s. On Easter Sunday as we sang of Jesus “mighty triumph o’er his foes,” we placed flowers in the chicken wire where the week before the red cloth had been.

Suffering, death, and resurrection. Passionate prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, swords drawn boldly in response to those who came to arrest Jesus, and then denial of Jesus three times before the rooster crowed. Palms proclaiming a King come in peace, blood red cloth proclaiming a King mocked and crucified, and chicken wire covered with flowers proclaiming the joy of resurrection. These symbols remind us of the pattern and rhythm of life and of the life of faith. We will suffer and die and we will be resurrected many times in life before we leave our mortal bodies. Jesus teaches us the pattern in his life, death, and resurrection.

Richard Rohr writes in *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*:

“The soul has many secrets. They are only revealed to those who want them, and are never completely forced upon us. One of the best-kept secrets, and yet one hidden in plain sight, is that *the way up is the way down*. Or, if you prefer, *the way down is the way up*....”

In Scripture, we see that the wrestling and wounding of Jacob are necessary for Jacob to become Israel ([Genesis 32:26-32](#)), and the death and resurrection of Jesus are necessary to create Christianity. The loss and renewal pattern is so constant and ubiquitous that it should hardly be called a secret at all.”

Like Peter, even though we have seen Jesus we will chicken out and deny Christ and Christ will come to us, restore us, and send us out to feed his sheep and to feed his lambs. So, underneath the Easter flowers is chicken wire to remind us that even though we fail and fail again, Christ is with us to lift us up again and again so that with Christ and all the saints we will reign to the glory of God.

Shalom in Christ,

John

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May...

- 2nd Shelby Murphy
- 4th Mark Clevenger
- 9th Nancy Carver
- 12th Earlene Harvey
- 13th Eric Schamp
- 18th Jeff Reese
- 19th Kalie Holt
- 20th Jolene Murphy
- 22nd Carl Baney
- 28th Florence Shelby
- 29th Troy Campbell



June...

- 1st Noah Holt
- 8th Debby Pittenger
- 9th Barbara Hewitt
- 12th Drew DeHaven
- 13th Fritz Dolak
- 14th Mick Phelps
- 16th Jeanne Richardson
- 17th Mary Rollins
- 18th John Young
- 22nd Larry Campbell
Herb Blank
- 23rd Norm Thompson
- 25th Della Stafford
Paul Wallace
- 29th Gladys Hunter
- 30th Ruthanne Watson



May...

- 5th John & Marlene Boyer
- 18th Tom & Diane Baird
Fritz & Deb Dolak
- 26th Joe & Sara Mitchell

June...

- 2nd Joe & Betty Speece
- 3rd Mick & Jan Phelps
- 6th Jerry & Ann Golden
John & Missi Young
- 12th Gary & Laura Shadoin
- 17th Barry & Judy Turner
- 21st Terry & Viv Jacobs
- 26th Harry & Florence Shelby

May-June Reminder

Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

Jim Reese for organizing, the Riverside Men for serving and the Riverside Ladies for preparing the egg casserole dishes for the East District Mens' Lenten Breakfast on the 3rd of April.

Everyone that helped clean up the Riverside Median at Wheeling and McGalliard.

Everyone that purchased new plantings for the south wall at the Neely St. entrance and thanks to Jim and Bev Reese for their work to plant them.

Pat Brown and Nancy Campbell for organizing and all their helpers for preparing and serving the meal following the celebration of life for Jeanie Riggín.

Everyone that came out to help work on the church grounds on the 18th of April. Your work is certainly appreciated.

Those that prepared and/or served meals at the Christian Ministries Sleep Room.

The Media Ministry Team for faithfully working each Sunday morning with Pastor John to bring a very meaningful service.



Faith Build Friday, July 22, 2011

What better gift to give mothers everywhere than the security of a warm, safe, and dry home for their children to live in? You can help give that gift by donating to the 2011 Faith Build. We will receive an

offering on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th to support the Faith Build celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Greater Muncie, Indiana Habitat for Humanity. Make your gift payable to Riverside UMC and note it for Habitat Faith Build.

It is our hope to build with Jessica McNeary a home which will provide a safe, decent, affordable place for her and her young son. Jessica works at Sallie Mae and has dreams of attending college. She is a lifelong Muncie resident and Muncie Southside graduate. We plan to build her home at 1003 N Burns St in the Whitely Neighborhood. Jessica has already engaged in many hours of sweat equity.

Please pray for Jessica's family and the mission of Habitat for Humanity and plan to participate in Riverside's work day on Friday, July 22nd.

May-June Reminder

We were blessed by wonderful worship experiences during Holy Week. In the Holy Thursday service at Gethsemane UMC Pastor Vickie reminded us of the beautiful thing Mary did in anointing Jesus with expensive perfume and the beautiful thing Jesus did in giving his life so that we might know how to live life abundantly. On Good Friday, there were 264 in attendance at 7:00 p.m. and 96 in attendance at 8:45 p.m. for the very moving cantata, *Tapestry of Darkness*, which included the youth from Gethsemane reminding us through liturgical dance/drama that “He Was Still Her Little Child” from birth through his crucifixion. See the two poems written in response to the service on page 7 and page 11.

Thanks to:

Tony Collins for his passionate direction.

Amanda Collins for writing a moving narration of the passion of Christ through the eyes of Simon the Cyrene and his mother. The combined choirs of Gethsemane and Riverside for singing with clarity and conviction and weaving the crimson thread throughout the cantata.

Pam Morford (Pam Morford, Box 55085. Indianapolis, IN 46205, pamorford@netzero.net) for weaving throughout the cantata and altar cloth with our prayers written on ribbons and for portraying Simon the Cyrene’s mother.

Ms. Ella Stotts (5519 Vintage Dr., Indianapolis 46226, elstotts@sbcglobal.net) for using her deep voice and portraying Simon the Cyrene.

J.K. Blair for choreographing and dancing “He Was Still Her Little Child.”

Travis and Melissa Stayton for working with the youth.

The youth of Gethsemane for their moving portrayal of the song “He Was Still Her Little Child.”

Mick Phelps and Glen Perkins for running sound and lights.

And to all those who worked behind the scenes as greeters and ushers and go-fers and costume makers.

On Good Friday and Holy Saturday, the Way of the Cross was available for people to walk, pray, and reflect on the passion of Christ. Individuals, groups, and classes from Gethsemane United Methodist Church and Riverside United Methodist Church created the fourteen stations to accompany the Good Friday cantata, *Tapestry of Darkness*.

There was a nice picture in the Star Press on April 23rd and fifteen pictures were available in the Star Press Photo Gallery (thestarpress.com).

Thanks to the following groups from Gethsemane UMC, which created the first seven stations:

1. Junior High Youth
2. Senior High Youth
3. Alexander Small Group
4. Parent Small Group
5. Pairs & Spares Adult Education Group
6. Van Ministry “The Way-Country Acres Children”
7. Childrens Ministry

Thanks to the following groups/individuals from Riverside UMC, which created the last seven stations:

8. Men’s IHOP Small Group (Barry Turner took the pictures, Nathan DeLong and Daniel Yocum printed and mounted the pictures)
9. Betty Campbell for the Harvey Small Group
10. Dick Garringer
11. Add-A-Link Sunday Adult Ed Class
12. Josh Young
13. Eric Murphy for the Masters Charges Adult Ed Class
14. Sandy Abbott & Hester Mitchell

Special thanks to Margaret Ann DeBoy for sewing the banners & Bob Harvey for making the wood slats to support them. thanks to Mary Ann Beuoy, Betty Campbell, Cindy Miller, and Tom Schamp for hanging the banners in Fellowship Hall.

Ministry Support

Trustees' Corner

Above and Beyond-Preparing for the Future update:

We're still working on the Above and Beyond project list which includes purchasing additional heat pumps and sealing and restriping the entire parking lot. You may have noticed that the cracks in the parking lot were sealed in early April. Work will not be done or equipment purchased until we have the money on account to pay the bills. Thanks to everyone that has already contributed and to those that continue to fulfill your pledges.

Upcoming Projects

The Trustees continue to discover new ways water is able to get into the building. McGuff was contacted recently about sealing up some leaks in the roof of the main church building. These leaks have already been doing damage to the interior walls and ceiling and will only get worse if not repaired immediately. For your convenience you may see this damage in the photos below:



Room behind the Balcony



Ceiling and south wall in the Sanctuary

Landscaping Project Completed

Below is a photo of the landscaping that was planted earlier this month by Jim and Bev Reese:



COVENANT PARTNERS COMMUNITY DAY

Community Day continues in 2011 on the fourth Thursday of the month. Please bring your bags of supplies by Tuesday, March 22nd for the next event on Thursday, March 24th. **Here is the updated list of items to include: unscented hand soap (1 bar or bottle), laundry detergent (small bottle or box), dish detergent (16 oz), Kleenex (1 box), and toilet paper (4 rolls).** Also, please see Susan Reno or Mary Schumacher if you would be willing to share part of your day on those Thursdays from 10-2 with the people at Covenant Partners. You will be blessed.

THERAPY DOG TRAINING

Will take place at Riverside in 2011, with sessions being offered in June, July, August and October. Please contact Deb Dolak [765-288-2514 or 2sibes@comcast.net] for more information about this wonderful course and ministry possibilities following.

RIVERSIDE RIDERS

The Riverside Riders are looking forward to another season of bike rides. The first ride this year will be on Saturday the 7th of May. We will meet at the church at 8:00am. Destination is the Mill Creek Restaurant in Gaston. Why don't you plan to join us? We will ride on the first Saturday of the month into the fall.

SENIOR PICNIC & HEALTH FAIR

On Friday the 13th of May in the Memorial Building at the Delaware County Fairgrounds TRIAD of Delaware County will be holding their annual Senior Picnic and Health Fair. Hours are from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Attendees will enjoy a free lunch, free health screenings and free entertainment as well as listening to numerous informational programs and visiting many vendor booths with door prizes. You are also encouraged to bring your expired or unneeded meds to be disposed of in a way that protects God's good creation.

You may already be aware that Riverside has formed a partnership with TRIAD and has hosted a couple of workshops about things important to Senior Citizens. Because of this partnership TRIAD has offered to provide us space to set up a table so we can talk with the attendees about their spiritual health.

HABITAT 2011 AWAY WORK CAMP

We are planning our 2011 Away Work Camp trip for the week of June 5th. We are planning on going to Cadillac, Michigan to frame a home. We will be staying in a church. We will also be doing some site seeing in the area. Cadillac is located about 340 miles north of Muncie in central Michigan. The cost will be \$95 per person. This is a great opportunity to have some fun and help someone less fortunate to have a new home. Anyone, including non members of the church, is welcome to join the group if you are willing to have some fun and do whatever you can to help with the camp. **We will have a meeting of the campers at 7 PM on May 10th at the church to make plans for the trip.** If you are interested in joining the group or in obtaining more information contact Committee Members: Joe Speece, (H) 759-5017 E-mail jmspeece@aol.com and/or Nancy Campbell 759-9819.

Passionate Worship and Radical Hospitality

Fellowship Time

Coffee and snacks are being served each Sunday morning in the Joseph W. Rankin Library. Volunteers are needed so this ministry can continue. A sign up sheet is available in the library. Just let Amy Clevenger know if you have any questions or need to know how to operate the coffee brewer.

Kathy Poffenbarger from St. Matthew UMC in Anderson attended the Good Friday cantata, *Tapestry of Darkness*. In response she wrote, “The service last night was very moving and powerful. I appreciated the ideas that shadows require light and a light still shines when we can't see it. The tapestry theme of darkness was thought provoking; I thought back to the tapestries I saw in several of the cathedrals in France.” She also wrote this poem:

Tapestry

Mysterious tapestry of life
Shadows in light
Darkness and joy
Each one weaving a life
filled with darkness and shadows
joys and mysteries
Some tapestries weave easily
Some tapestries weave hard
And God's yarn means each tapestry is woven in
the light of love
A completed tapestry becomes beautiful
Shadows, darkness, light, joys are the work of a lifetime

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SPECIAL MUSIC

Hey Everybody!!

With summer approaching it is time to start thinking about special music. If you, or anyone near you, would like the opportunity to share with the congregation at Riverside please contact Tony Collins (765.748.2670) or the church office (765.288.4257). We will be blessed to have you participate in the service with us.

May-June Reminder

May and June Hosts and Minglers

DATE	OUTSIDE DOOR	INSIDE DOOR	LOBBY MINGLER	SANCTUARY MINGLER
5/01	Wilma Grile & Pat Ashcraft	Nancy Campbell	Kay Farling	Fred Wallace
5/08	Joe & Judy Van Winkle	Pat Brown	Marge Salisbury	Karen Blank
5/15	Jerry & Ann Golden	Nellie Campbell	Bill Campbell	Hester Mitchell
5/22	Jack Richardson & Dick Garringer	Virginia Sharp	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
5/29	Larry Campbell & Ron Brown	Nancy Campbell	Pat Ashcraft	Dorothy Bowman
6/05	Rex Pittenger & Harry Shelby	Sandy Hunter	Betty Lacey	Florence Shelby
6/12	Jack Stanton & Susan Reno	Linda Keyton	Sara Mitchell	Mary Schumacher
6/19	Bob & Earlene Harvey	Bill Campbell	Nellie Campbell	Margaret Ann Deboy
6/26	Jack Richardson & Mark Clevenger	Jeanne Richardson	Margaret Ann Deboy	Amy Clevenger

Having Greeters each Sunday is an important ministry at Riverside. If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please ask someone to fill in for you.





Message from Dr. Roger, KHUSA Child Psychologist

Communicating directly with parents has to be handled carefully. Remember that the parents of at risk children are highly suspicious of schools and may see you as an agent of the school rather than a helper of their child. We recommend that you spend the first six months building a solid relationship with the child before you have any contact with the parents. Teacher and principal should be made aware of when a mentor or director plans to start making regular contact since they may want to inform the parent of your plans. Directors should always make the first personal contact with parents so there is continuity in what they hear about KHUSA. This is also an opportunity for the director to size up the parents and decide if they are amenable to further contact by the mentor.

Once the mentor agrees to make contact, the parents may present a host of communication problems.

The most common problems are:

1. No phone
2. Rarely home
3. Not interested in how their child is doing at school
4. Full of complaints about the school's poor treatment of their child

In addition, some parents will hope the mentor is a soft touch who might want to help out with some of their financial problems. If the director or mentor runs into serious problems with any of the above areas, it is best not to pursue a relationship with the parents. I mentored a child for four years whose parents had a host of problems. My contact revolved primarily around getting their permission to take my student on special outings. They were more than happy to get rid of him and never refused my requests. Even though I am trained as a social worker, I decided that getting involved in their problems would detract from my relationship with their son. Our goal in KHUSA is to get to children early and hopefully break the cycle of failure and crisis that so often plagues these families.

I do recommend that either the director or the mentor act as an advocate for the child's needs to be met within the school setting. This may mean that you partner with a cooperative parent in asking the school to increase services to the child you're serving. This can get tricky since you want to remain on good terms with the school and the parents. Since there are so many hurting children in most schools, simply by reminding the school of your child's difficulty will often get the extra attention they need. If the mentor can develop a positive relationship with the parent, you will find that the child makes better progress at school. However since our first commitment is to the child, that is where the majority of effort should be placed.

Kids Hope Serve Camp

Thanks to everyone at Riverside and Gethsemane for supporting the Kids Hope Serve Day Camp fund raisers. This money will be used for food and supplies. We hope to have up to 40 kids here at Riverside the week of June 20th. Now we need you to sign up to help during that week. See the sign-up sheet in the Lobby. There are a number of ways you can help, Pray-ers, Group Leaders, Teachers and Teachers' Aides, Van/Car Drivers and Driver Aides, Recreation Helpers, Craft Leaders and Helpers, Music Helpers and Decorations. Please see the following descriptions for more information...

Drivers: Drivers will be needed at 3 times each day: between 8:30 and 9:00 am to pick up our campers and deliver them to RUMC, early afternoon to take the campers to the service project site and return them to the church, and again between 3:00 and 3:30 to take the campers home. When you sign up, you do not have to sign up for the entire day, but for one of the three times.

Drivers' aides: These aides will be needed to accompany the drivers. We would like to have both men and women to volunteer for this position.

Teachers: We are anticipating approximately 40 campers each day. They will be divided into four groups of ten. Lessons will be provided. Teachers will guide the campers through a 30-45 minute study each morning.

Teachers' aides: These aides will be needed to help the teachers with the lessons daily.

Craft leaders: Craft ideas will be provided daily and the leaders will oversee those projects as the campers work on them.

Music helpers: Campers will enjoy music selections each day. We hope to have them all "make a joyful noise." Tony Collins will be leading this group, but may need help.

Recreation helpers: Tom Schamp has been charged with finding recreation ideas. Volunteers will be needed to explain to the campers what they will be doing and then lead them in the activity.

Group leaders: Each group of 10 campers needs to have a group leader who will get to know them individually and will work with them throughout the day.

Pray-ers: We will begin praying on a daily basis on March 7. Pray-ers will be given specific requests each day and will pray for the volunteers, the campers, the serve projects, and the success of the camp.

Meetings will be held to explain specific jobs and to train volunteers.

Watch for more information and sign-up forms in the weekly bulletins. If you have questions, you can ask anyone on the committee: Barry and Judy Turner, Tom Schamp, Tony and Amanda Collins, Nancy Campbell, Jan Phelps, Pastor John and Missi Young...or call/email the church office.

The committee is working hard to make this first Kids Hope Serve Camp a success, but it can only be a success if we have volunteers willing to help us each step of the way.



End of Year Party!

Mentors and students should plan on attending this fun event to finish off another great year for Kids Hope!
Come to the Ball State Student Center on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00-Noon to join the fun!

Spuds for Mary Potato Bar

A potato bar fundraiser will be held on Sunday, May 22nd, at 12:30pm at Gethsemane UMC to assist Mary Schumacher on the Operation Classroom Mission Trip where Mary will help build an assembly hall at Baoma Secondary School in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Ticket prices are as follows: Ages 11 and up \$7.00, children 6-10 \$4.00, and children 5 and under are free. A family ticket can be purchased for \$18.00.

Come support this opportunity for Mary and enjoy great food and fellowship!

We will also receive an offering to support Mary in late May or early June or at anytime you choose.

Note on your gift of support *Baoma Mission Team*.

TAPESTRY

I am your Prayer, your heart's desire, inscribed on colors of Spring.

You have committed me to God, to the One, the Beloved

I sing in silence, *"Grant this gift, O Lord, in the name of the Word."* Ribbon of wonder; image of faith.

I am the Loom; noble wood, ready with weft of crimson red.

I have come to weave; this is my purpose and my fulfillment.

I await the Weaver's hand, yearning for the shuttle, the merging In and Out. I am the willing Tool.

I am the Weaver; you want a cloth of wondrous ribbons;

A tapestry for your altars, fashioned through your believing.

I choose each prayer in turn, and weave it with a crimson thread; As the cloth grows, the Story is told.

I am the Cloth. I am your prayers sheltered in tapestry.

You have witnessed my weaving, and we are one, you and I -

One Prayer, one God and Maker. Remember, you called me forth.

Care for me. This is our covenant.

- E. L. Stotts, Good Friday, 2011

Called by God

On Easter Sunday we began an eight week series on what it means to be Called By God which will culminate on Pentecost, June 12th with the celebration of the birth of the Church and reception of new members.

As United Methodists we understand that ministry is for all Christians. In our *Book of Discipline* we proclaim:

¶ **125. *The Heart of Christian Ministry***—The heart of Christian ministry is Christ’s ministry of outreaching love. Christian ministry is the expression of the mind and mission of Christ by a community of Christians that demonstrates a common life of gratitude and devotion, witness and service, celebration and discipleship. All Christians are called through their baptism to this ministry of servanthood in the world to the glory of God and for human fulfillment. The forms of this ministry are diverse in locale, in interest, and in denominational accent, yet always catholic in spirit and outreach.”ⁱ

Our eight week series, Called by God, will focus on how God is calling each of us and all of us to be in ministry as followers of Jesus the Christ. I pray that you will join us for this series and will prayerfully invite others also.

04/24/2011	Easter Sunday	Called to Live into Easter
05/01/2011	2nd Sunday of Easter	Called by God
05/08/2011	3rd Sunday of Easter	Called to Discipleship
05/15/2011	4th Sunday of Easter	Called to Love
05/22/2011	5th Sunday of Easter	Called to Forgive
05/29/2011	6th Sunday of Easter	Called to Justice
06/05/2011	7th Sunday of Easter	Called to Servant Ministry
06/12/2011	Day of Pentecost	Called to Celebrate

ⁱ From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2008. Copyright 2008 by The United Methodist Publishing House.