



COURIER

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May 2015

Parson's Perspective

Special Points

Of Interest

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Jarrid Wilson recently blogged that churches should be like living rooms. He explains:

The church should be treated more like a living room and less like a country club. The intention of Jesus' church was to spread The Gospel, unify a community of people to do life with one another, share each other's burdens, and be there for one another in times of need.

Today's churches are really good at creating programs and checklists, but I believe what we really in need is warm and welcoming environments—in addition to warm and welcoming people. We need people to know that when they attend a church, they will be embraced with open and loving arms.

Why should the church be treated like a living room? Let me explain ...

- Living rooms are where conversations happen.
- Living rooms are where people spend time together.
- Living rooms are where people cry together.
- Living rooms are where people laugh together.
- Living rooms are where people bond with one another.
- Living rooms are where people work things out.
- Living rooms are where people discuss hard things.
- Living rooms are where people dream together.
- Living rooms are where people discussion transition.
- Living rooms are where people find forgiveness.
- Living rooms are where people find hope.
- Living rooms are where people find comfort.

We're Called to Be Family. No matter where someone is at in life, what they're feeling or what they may have done in their past, love and embrace will be waiting for them in the comfort of a living room. We're called to be family, and the church should reflect a welcoming environment that anyone can feel at home in, regardless of their circumstances.

Are there ways we can more living room oriented? How about a few throw pillows, or boxes of tissues? Sofas or recliners? Really its more about attitudes than afghans. Let's really live in our room

Pastor Rick

THIS MONTH

Friday-Monday, May 1 -4 -Pastor
Getty away

Sunday, May 3 - 9:30 a.m. Adult
Class-"Exodus" - Bruce Henderson
Leader

Birthday Offering (See special
article in this newsletter)

Wednesday, May 6 - 1:30 p.m.
Circle Meetings: Esther Circle at
the home of Kay Weir, 404 Ramble
Road-Sandy Hlasten, Study Leader
Martha Mary Circle will meet at the
Residence Cottage with Marian
Odell Hostess and Nel Huck Study
Leader

Sunday, May 10 9:30 a.m. Adult
Class (Mauri and Teresa Smith will
share their Faith Journey story)

Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 19 - 3:30 p.m.
Member Care Meeting

Thursday, May 14 - 1:30 p.m.
Evangelism Mtg.

Sunday, May 17 - 9:30 a.m.
Adult Class -Bruce Henderson will
conclude the study of Exodus

Wednesday, May 20 - 1:45 p.m.
P.W.C.T. Meeting at the home of
Audrey Tysen, 357 Wendy Lane

3:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Thursday, May 21 - 10:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Communion at Bristol
Health Care

Sunday, May 24 - 9:30 a.m.
Adult Class - Bruce Henderson will
conclude the study on Exodus
Pastor Getty will give the sermon:
"The Holy Spirit in Our Experience"
Pentecost Offering

Sunday, May 24-Monday, June 1
Pastor Hays will be on vacation

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day
Church Closed

Sunday, May 31 - Communion
(Deacons' Offering)
Pastor Getty will give the sermon:
"God in Relationship"


MAY BIRTHDAYS:

May 6 - Nancy Seward
7 - David Bell
8 - Ralph Strickland
13 - Virginia Dixon
14 - Irene Noble
16 - Patricia Strickland
31 - Andrew Hays

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

May 8 - Ginny and George Hartwell
11 - Juliet and Bob Getty
16 - Tammy and William Niebling



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2015</h1>					1	2
					Pastor Getty away May 1-4	
3 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship Birthday Offering	4	5	6 8 a.m. Sleeve Tuggers 1:30 p.m. Circle Meetings	7 3:45 p.m. Choir	8	9
10 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship Mother's Day	11	12 3:30 p.m. Member Care Mtg.	13 8 a.m. Sleeve- Tuggers	14 1:30 p.m. Evangelism 3:45 p.m. Choir	15	16
17 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship	18	19	20 8 a.m. Sl. Tuggers 1:45 p.m. P.W.C.T. 3 p.m. Session	21 10:30 a.m. Communion Bristol Health Care 3:45 Choir	22	23
24 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 Worship Pentecost Offering	25  Memorial Day Church Closed	26	27 Sleeve Tuggers 8 a.m.	28 3:45 p.m. Choir	29	30
Pastor Hays will be on vacation May 24 - June 1						
31 10:45 a.m. Worshp Communion Deacons' Offering						



Scripture Texts for Sunday Worship, May 2015

May 3	The Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:7-21 ; John 15:1-8 Pastor Rick: "The Geometry of Love"
May 10	The Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 10:44-48; 1 John 5:1-5; John 15:9-17 Pastor Rick: "The Topography of Love"
May 17	The Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19 Pastor Rick: "The Shield of Love"
May 24	The Day of Pentecost Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, & 16:4b-15 Pastor Bob: "The Holy Spirit in Our Experience"
May 31	Trinity Sunday Isaiah 6:1-8; Romans 8:12-17 ; John 3:1-17 Pastor Bob: "God in Relationship"

OUR SESSION AT WORK

At the April 15th Session meeting the Elders took another step in the New Beginnings process that had been started last year by turning in individually written Mission Statements. All statements received have now been turned over to Bob Neely who will try to combine all ideas represented into a single Mission Statement for the Session's consideration at its May 20th meeting. Tom Patterson, Session Liaison to the Member Care Committee reported on some of the guidelines that committee has been working on for the Member Care Fund, and the Session asked them to consider defining "emergency"; setting out what categories of need should be covered; and what, if any, limits should be placed on frequency of individual requests. The Finance/Budget committee was asked to work on a proposal for how to finance purchase of adult Bible class texts and whether the choir fund should be tracked through the Consolidated Funds Reports or the Operating Fund reports. The Evangelism/Mission Committee reported that 30 "Easter Bags" of goodies were distributed at the Saturday Night Georgia Harris Bible study, and the Waverly Senior Center Bible study continues to be well attended. A number of other routine issues were discussed, and Session continued to clarify individual committee assignments.

VERBALIZING OUR FAITH

Florence Vonderohe shares her faith:

Over the years my faith has increased. Living in a Christian home, I witnessed the faith of my parents. During the Depression, my mother would say, "The Lord will provide", and He always did.

Starting college with only enough money for one semester, I witnessed the Lord's promise to provide all my needs, and He always did.

Stepping out in faith to go to Puerto Rico to teach in a mission school, the Lord blessed me in many ways. There I met and married Dr. Walter Bond who lived there and was studying Psychology at the School of Tropical Medicine. Two years later we went to India and then Nepal to serve the Lord.

Today with sorrows and joys, I know the Lord is with me and helping me day by day. Without Him I'd be lost and afraid, but by His grace I can face each day knowing that He cares for me.

May 3, 2015
Birthday
Offering
Presbyterian
Women

*He will feed his flock like a shepherd:
he will gather the lambs in his arms.*
Isaiah 40:1, 11a

Bethesda Christian Community Center
Oxford Presbyterian Church, Ohio and
Seventh Presbyterian Church, Columbia
Barranquilla, Columbia

The Community of St. Therese of Lisieux (CSTL)
Breaking Free: Empowering Victims of Sexual Human Trafficking,
Prostitution and Addiction
Memphis, Tennessee

The Birthday Offering for these missions will be received with the regular offering. There are special envelopes in your boxes or they will be available at the back of the sanctuary.

PENTECOST OFFERING - May 24, 2015

The Pentecost Offering does good near and far.

May Flowers

May 3 -

10 -

17 - Tammy & William Niebling

24 -

31 -

25% goes to Global Reach and supports Young Adult Volunteer experiences around the world

40% Stays with our Congregation, helping Youth in our Community.

25% Goes to Ministries with Youth

10% helps Ministries for Children at Risk.

May Coffee Fellowship Hour Hosts:

May 3 - Elaine & Otto Zingg

10 - Patty & Ralph Strickland

17 -

24 -

31 -

Special envelopes are in your Offering Envelope Boxes or on the desk in the sanctuary.

Risk

CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM AND SOCIAL CHANGE

On Thursday, May 21, at 10:00 am, this topic will be presented at a Faith and Values Forum at the Bristol Village Glenn Center (Rehearsal Room). Otto Zingg will talk about the nature of mysticism in the Christian tradition and its relevance for life today. All are welcome.

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

APRIL 24, 2015

Ministers for Community: Every Member

Co-Pastors: Richard Hays and Robert Getty

Secretary Barbara Patterson

Clerk of Session: Elaine Zingg

Choir Director: Karen Henderson

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Treasurer: Robert Neely

Ministers for Vision and Mission: Session

Class of 2015

Betsy Hall

Ann Oyer

Dick Roberts

Tom Patterson

Class of 2016

David Bell

Robert Neely

Irene Noble

Glenn Noble

Class of 2017

Jim Clark

Dimitry Sergay

Charles Van

Person

Elaine Zingg

Ministers for Member Care: Deacons

Evelyn Baker

Kitty Neely

Anne Young

Ministers Serving In Other Places

Pike County Outreach Council of Churches

Pike County Welfare House

Mark, Jenny, Keila Rosa & Anika Estela Hare — Papay, Haiti

Dendamrongsaat Church — Chiangrai, Thailand

Ministers Serving from Home

At Bristol Health Care

444 Cherry St., Waverly OH 4569

Jeanne Barron-105

Maryanna Cassady-14

Anna Dodge-111

Virginia Hartwell-102

The Gardens

Betty Jenkins-202, Ben Lane 202

At Home Virginia Dixon, Janet and Oscar Marsh,

Marlene Voorhes

Other Places

Kitty McCollam and Max Russell, Barratt Banta

May Worship Assistants:

May 3 - Otto Zingg

10 - Florence Vonderohe

17 - Elaine Zingg

24 - Juliet Getty

31 -

May Greeters:

May 3 - Linda and Mike Milam

10 - Betty and Ivan Sumej

17 - Kathy Will and Charles Van Person

24 - Patty and Earl Todt

31 - Ann Young & Florence Vonderohe

May Ushers:

May 3 - Bob Neely, Kitty Neely, David Bell

10 - Lois Hardy, Ann Oyer, Wanda

Stratton

17 - Bud Hobday, Dimitry Sergay

Ivan Sumej, Earl Todt

24 - Ralph Strickland, Dimitry Sergay

31 - Lois Hardy, Wanda Stratton, Ann

Oyer

May Counters:

May 3 - Mike Milam & Bob Neely

10 - Jim Clark and Kay Weir

17 - Betsy Hall and Nancy Seward

24 - David Bell and Anne Young

31 - Jim Clark and Kay Weir

For addresses, call the church at 947-2905, or e-mail <bpattersonpresbychurch@yahoo.com>

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Amen Corner

Fellowship of Merry Christians member Merrilyn Belgum, age 71, bills herself as "the funniest old lady in the world." A widowed mother of six grown-up children, Merrilyn began her full-time career as a "sit-down comedienne" at the age of 62. She was a social worker for 41 years - 21 as a faculty member at the University of Minnesota School of Social Work - before she decided to quit her job to pursue her dream of becoming a comedienne.

A member of Grace University Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, she often appears before church groups in a long, sequined gown with a stole of feathers, something out of the 1920's.

"I went to get my license renewed the other day," she tells her audience. "They asked me where I was born. I said I was born in iniquity and raised in sin. I should've just said I was born in Duluth."

When her husband died after a long battle with bone cancer, humor helped her family survive that difficult time, she says. "You don't get too old to

be funny," she says. "Humor helps name the demons in your life. Once you name them, you can begin to cope with what life has given you. When you laugh, you get a glimpse of God."

HURRAH FOR PENTECOST!

"What changed Jesus' disciples after the crucifixion from a scattered, frightened band of fugitives into the most remarkable collection of human beings the world has ever seen? Joy imparted by the Holy Spirit was what changed the disciples and knit them together at Pentecost. Joy was what Peter preached at Pentecost. And joy was the atmosphere in the early church.

"This was not the traditional hushed solemnity that has characterized so much of the church over the centuries. It was euphoria, hilarity, unspeakable gladness." — Sherwood Elliot Wirt, *The Book of Joy*

From Holy Humor, © 1996 Guideposts.