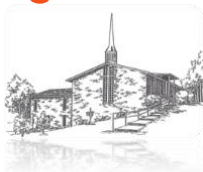


Pegram UMC



Newsletter

Rev. Dane van Eys
479 Thompson Road
Pegram TN, 37143
615.646.6033
615.944.8348 (mobile)
pegmumc@gmail.com

4 October, 2019

Around The Church

The Psalmist teaches us in Psalm 145:9 that, "The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made." I can certainly affirm the truthfulness of this Psalm in many ways, but one way in particular is through seeing God's goodness and mercy at work in the community and fellowship here at PUMC.

Over the past month, I have felt a closeness in this congregation. I have seen love shared between our members. I have seen both joys and sorrows that we have carried together and prayed through together. This, of course, is one of the simplest and yet most profound marks of a healthy and Spirit-filled church...we will know Christ is among us by the fruits of love we share through him and with each other. God's goodness and mercy is indeed filling the lives of our membership, it is evident.

One way this love we share has been clearly seen is in our worship life. As we gather each Sunday morning to praise the King of kings, we take a moment to pass the peace. Our congregation passes the peace with so much joy and excitement, with such genuine love for each other, that I truly think we could spend the entire hour of worship just talking with each other. This shows deep unity and true care for one another, it is beautiful to witness and participate in. In fact, our guest speaker from last Sunday Steve Skelton commented on how impressed he was by our passing of the peace. I think it kind of blew him away!

I also witnessed the closeness and bonds of love we share at our 5th Sunday Agape Meal. The Agape Meal is a time where we can simply enjoy each other's company, catch up on life, converse, and do all this knowing Christ is in our midst. The Agape Meal is sharing more than just food, but sharing life together, and sharing in the Spirit together. The food was delicious, the fellowship sweet, and as I looked out at the very full fellowship hall I saw smiles on every face.

Another blessing, and move of the Spirit, which we have seen over this past month regards the choir. Gary, myself, and other choir members have been praying for more people to join the choir for some time, and this season that prayer was graciously answered by God. We have grown the choir to double digit membership, and for this I am thrilled. The Methodist tradition has a robust history of singing, and we here at PUMC are glad to keep that tradition going.

I said this at worship Sunday, I feel as though we may be on the brink of revival. There is a spiritual excitement in our midst, the presence of Christ among us is tangible and palpable. But let us not grow complacent in our prayers. Let us continue to pray for more and more lives to be touched by our ministries, more and more fillings of the Spirit in our lives and worship, and more and more passion for our God and neighbors. Glory to Jesus!

Weekly Calendar

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.-- Sunday School
10:30 a.m. -- Worship

Monday: 5:30 p.m. -- AA meeting

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. -- Senior lunch
6:30 p.m. -- Choir (on summer break)

Thursday: 7:30a.m. --men's coffee hour @Iron Skillet

Friday: 5:00-7:00 p.m. -- Prayer Meeting

Special Note!

This month's special note is more of a fun fact. John Wesley rode over 250,000 miles on horseback during his ministry. This mileage is enough for him to have circled the earth 10 times over. This commitment to itinerant ministry came from Wesley's heart to reach all people, to reach them face to face and not just with printed materials, and in this way to build lasting relationships in and for the kingdom of God.

We can learn much from this example. There is no place too far to spread the gospel, there is no person too tucked away to avoid ministering to, there is no attitude less than zealously that we should maintain, there is no privilege greater than being Ambassadors for Christ! Wesley had this type of heart, may we as well!

Upcoming Events!

October 6 – Worship at NHC Place at the Trace, 8353 Hwy. 100, 2 p.m.

October 8 -- Lay Leadership Committee Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 14 – UMW & 12 *Extraordinary Women* Bible Study, 6 p.m.

Oct. 26 -- Charge Conference @ 10:00 a.m.

October 27 -- Laity Led Sunday

November 3rd – Baby Jaxton Cunningham Shower after Sunday Service

AA meetings are held at the church each Monday, 5:30 p.m.

Men's Coffee Hour at Iron Skillet (KS) each Thursday, 7:30 a.m.

Friday Prayer Meetings – Come as you are anytime between 5-7 p.m..

Toddler / Preschool Sunday School

Thanks to all who help in some way to teach our Toddlers and Preschool children each Sunday.

We have enjoyed the lessons of the past few months which has told us about several gospel stories, miracles of Jesus, how to be a disciple of Jesus how to pray, and much more. We are looking forward to turning the page and learning more.

If you wish to help us please let Kielee know and she will surely find you a spot on the schedule. You can also email her at Kieleetn@yahoo.com

Children's Church Class Leaders

Oct. 6-- Donna / Angela

Nov. 3-- Kielee / Paulette

Oct. 13-- Sheila / Paulette

Nov. 10-- Donna / Friede

Oct. 20-- Karen M. / Karen N. Trisha

Nov. 17-- Karen M. /

Oct. 27-- Linda / Dianne

Nov. 24-- Sheila / Dianne

Wit & Wisdom

“Faith is not the belief that God will do what you want. It is the belief that God will do what is right.”

--Max Lucado

“It’s not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.”

--Mother Teresa

“The Christian does not think that God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because he loves us.”

--C.S. Lewis

“Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.”

--Ellen White

“God is that, the greater than which cannot be conceived.”

--Saint Anselm

“Ministers can but speak to the ear, the Spirit speaks to the heart.”

--Thomas Watson

“All along, let us remember we are not asked to understand, but simply to obey.”

-- Amy Carmichael

“I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”

-- Jesus Christ (John 10:9)

Remembering the Reformation

For us Christians, October 31st is about much more than costumes, jack-o-lanterns, candy filled baskets, and spooky music and TV shows. October 31st, is actually among the most important days in all of Church history. It is the day the Reformation officially began.

On October 31st, in the year 1517, the monk, priest, professor, Martin Luther made public his 95 theses. This list of theses was to begin what he thought would simply be an academic discussion and debate about certain teachings and practices within the Roman Catholic Church which Luther questioned. These included teachings like purgatory, papal infallibility, how many sacraments there should be, if salvation is given by faith alone or by faith plus works, and perhaps the most urgent critique Luther brought forth was about the selling of indulgences (a system by which a parishioner was told they could pay for a loved one to get out of purgatory and go to heaven).

Luther’s original intent was to merely start a conversation, to bring some change and reform to the Church he dearly loved, but as a mustard tree is produced by a tiny seed, the 95 theses of Luther provoked much more than an academic discussion. A Reformation occurred, a splitting of Protestants and Catholics took place, a spiritual earthquake divided Christendom. We in the Methodist Church, hold steadfastly to much of the doctrines which Luther and the other Reformers dared to put forward, and for this we should be both grateful and humbled.

As the Reformation picked up steam, five “solas” became the slogan to identify the basic and core sentiments of the Reformed position. The five solas are in Latin -- *sola gratia, sola fide, sola scriptura, sola Christi, Soli Deo Gloria*. In English these are -- *only grace, only faith, only scripture, only Christ, only glory to God*.

I think it would be beneficial to look at each of these five solas, highlight their importance for us, and display how they are biblically faithful, as we enter the month in which we celebrate the anniversary of the Reformation.

First off, “only grace.” We believe in Christianity that we are saved by God’s grace. We do not earn our salvation, we do not work for our salvation, we do not have to strive for our salvation. God is the one who is active in saving us, we are passive. God is the one who prepares the way of salvation, God is the one who draws us to that way of salvation, and God is the one who takes us by the hand and leads us on that way of salvation. Consider this passage from Titus 2:11 which states, “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people.” Ephesians 1:7 also testifies to this reality saying “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.”



The second sola, “only faith,” teaches us that the access to this grace of God comes not by works, but simply by trust and faith. Faith is the mechanism which applies this grace to our lives. Ephesians 2:8 says, “it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...” God supplies salvation, as a free gift, we accept it by believing God, believing God’s promises, by having faith. Jesus says in John 5:24 that, “whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.” Faith, is the key to unlocking God’s gracious favor, for “to please God one must believe he exists” (Hebrews 11:6).



The third sola, “scripture alone,” informs us of *where* our doctrines come from. Church councils, Church scholars, Church traditions we have inherited, are all wonderful, useful, and necessary...but our final and sole authority is God’s revealed mind, will, and words in Scripture. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 teaches us that “all scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, correcting, rebuking, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, and fully equipped for every good work.” The God given Scripture is what “fully equips” us for discerning God’s will and what should be taught in Church. The Reformers brought us back to realizing that the Bible is our foundational source for all spiritual knowledge.



The fourth sola, “only Christ,” instills in us the reality that Jesus is the only Savior. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is not *a* way, but *the* Way. Scripture teaches in Acts 4:12 that, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to humankind by which we must be saved.” That “no one else” of course is Jesus. Jesus is the “Name above all names” (Philippians 2:9).



The fifth and final sola, “only glory to God,” is to help us always remember our faith is about God, what God has done for us in Christ, and that God alone is to be eternally honored and glorified. Even my salvation is a signpost of God’s grace, mercy, and unmerited favor towards me. No human can boast. Isaiah puts it well as he speaks on behalf of God in Isaiah 42:8, “I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.”

I thank God for the life and witness of the Reformers this month as the anniversary of the Reformation’s start is near us. Remember, the Reformation is not over, we can always be more and more conformed to these five solas, in our lives, our teaching, our ministries, and our denomination. Let us never stop seeking to be as faithful to Christ and his Bible as possible, and may we always be praising God for his wonderful grace!



In Memory of Mrs. Sylvia Clark

A beautiful lady

A heart filled with grace

Every time that I saw her

She had a smile on her face

Born in the spring

In times that were tough

She brought happiness to the world

Because she was never gruff

She brought joy to her husband

Of 62 years

They shared a lifetime of memories

With laughter and tears

She raised children with kindness

And taught them God's way

Her spirit was youthful

Never too old to play

In her life she had struggles

But in death she is free

And her memory lives on

In you and in me

How blessed I am to have known her

And called her my friend

And I praise God for the promise

That we will see sweet Sylvia again.



Trisha M. Biggs

Bible Trivia! (answers at bottom of page)

Category: Prayer

Q1: How often are we to pray according to Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:17?

Q2: When Hannah is fervently praying silently in her heart, yet her lips are moving, the priest Eli accuses her of what in 1 Samuel 1:13-14?

Q3: According to James 5:16 the prayer of a righteous person is _____ and _____. (Fill in the blank)

Q4: True or False. The words “for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever” are found in the biblical version of the Lord’s prayer? (Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4)

Q5: When Jesus cleanses the Temple he says that God’s house is a “house of prayer.” He goes on to accuse the leaders at the Temple of turning it into what? (Matthew 21:13)

Q6: who said in one of his prayers, “the engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me, seaweed was wrapped around my head”?

Q7: who intercedes for us with “sighs too deep for words” when we don’t know how to pray as we ought? (Romans 8:26).



FUN PHOTOS!



(Jerry entertains us at Wednesday Senior lunch)



(A Full Fellowship Hall for PUMC 5th Sunday Agape Meal)



(New Piano given by Dennis G.)

Trivia answers: 1) Ceaselessly 2) being drunk 3) powerful and effective 4) False 5) A den of robbers 6) Jonah (Jonah 2:5) 7) the Holy Spirit

PEGRAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
Regular Sunday Schedule Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am	(A) Anniversary (B) Birthday	Tracy Edwards (B)	Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Courtney Brown (B) Prayer Meeting 5 pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship NHC The Trace 2pm	AA 5:30pm		Tom & Dianne True (A) Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Terry Hardin (B) Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Prayer Meeting 5 pm	John Radford (B)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Church Council 11:45am	UMW 6 pm AA 5:30pm		Jeremy & Jenifer Bell (A) Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Carolyn Spencer (B) John Greer (B) Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Prayer Meeting 5 pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	AA 5:30pm	Butch Rogers (B)	Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Gary Merritts (B) Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Prayer Meeting 5 pm	CHARGE CONFERENCE 10AM
27	28	29	30	31		
Bill & Sylvia Clark (A) Laity Sunday	AA 5:30pm		Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	502 nd Anniversary of Start of Reformation Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet		

PEGRAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOVEMBR 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
Regular Sunday Schedule Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am	(A) Anniversary (B) Birthday				Skip & Cathy Beck (A) Prayer Meeting 5 pm	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Baby Cunningham Shower after Service Worship NHC The Trace 2pm	LinnAnn Welch (B) AA 5:30pm	Betty Springer (B) Dale & Charlene Mills (A)	Lucas Edwards (B) Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice. 6:30 pm	Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Bo Harris (B) Prayer Meeting 5 pm	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Church Council 11:45am	UMW 6 pm AA 5:30pm		Jamie Merritts (B) Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Prayer Meeting 5 pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Parker Edwards (B) Jeff & Lisa Taylor (A)	Kristen Hedgepath (B) AA 5:30pm		Bobby Harris (B) Senior 60+ Lunch & Bingo 11am Choir Practice 6:30 pm	Men's Coffee 7:30 a.m. Iron Skillet	Hutch & Ginger Hockenberger (A) Prayer Meeting 5 pm	Doug O'Rear & Jane Crisp (A) UMW ANNUAL BAZAAR 8am – 1pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Community Thanksgiving Worship Service 6pm Harpeth Baptist Church	AA 5:30pm		Paul & Karla Moffatt (A)	 THANKSGIVING		