
CAMDEN UMC NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Maddox

Secretary: Leslie Coe

Organist: Barbara Schwartz

July 2017

Pastor's News for the People of God

Several years ago the clergy session of annual conference was held at the Liverpool First Church. I remember very well what one of the candidates for ordination responded when asked what her plan for ministry was. She responded that it was her intent to make the Word of God both accessible and relevant to people's lives today, in other words to make what God has said to us through the millennia applicable to modern life. I think that should be the ministry plan for all who serve God's people in the church whether they are Licensed Local Pastors, Ordained Elders, Deacons Certified Lay Ministers indeed everyone who proclaims God's word to God's people.

In many ways the study of scripture through the Disciple Bible studies helps us to do that. The Bible is a complex blend of God's word given to us in a much different physical and cultural setting with many of the circumstances presented in the writings

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Church Office News

The church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 1-3pm. The secretary is not in the office on Thursday. The Pastor will be in the office most Wednesdays. You may call during these hours to speak with the secretary, 315-245-2600 or e-mail the office at: camdenumc@centralny.twcbc.com. If you would like to come in during these hours please use the side door across from the office, and ring the bell to the right. The doors to our building will remain locked.

The **office will be closed July 4** (Independence Day).

If you would like to dedicate our worship bulletins to loved ones please check with the office to book the date. **Current dates available June 25, July 9, 16, 23, & 30.** The minimum suggested donation is \$6.60 a Sunday. If you would like to dedicate a hymn to loved ones for one of our worship services, for a donation, please check with the office for the date and to pick the hymn.

If you are planning an event please be sure to check the church calendar for availability, a copy of the calendar is on the board outside of the office. If your event requires the office to participate or prepare any information for that event, please let the office know.

The deadline for the **August** newsletter is Wednesday, **July 5, 2017**. If your group has news for the newsletter, please let the office know.

Ladies Fellowship

We will be meeting on August 5, 2017 at 10:00am. All ladies are welcome!

Pastor's News Cont.

difficult if not impossible to relate directly to our culture and place. Throughout the thirty four lessons in the Disciple I Bible study the question is frequently asked "and what does this mean for us or what does this mean for the modern church?" Thus giving us an opportunity to discuss in some detail what it *does* mean for us.

You have probably heard me say that the Disciple Bible Study series is pretty exhaustive and from time to time pretty exhausting! But we are blessed with a wonderful dedicated group of nine people (The Loaves and Fishes) who have been faithful to the study and each other through the past twenty-seven weeks. We are on a short break for the summer and will finish the last seven weeks after Labor Day but are planning a field trip or two during the summer. We'll keep you posted about them in a little while.

It is my most sincere hope that the study of our Bible through this wonderful program will enhance all of our abilities to make the Bible applicable to today's church, Camden United Methodist Church. Please consider joining us after we've completed Disciple when we once again explore our Holy Bible.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve

Pennies for Mission

We added \$25.62 on May 14th for a total of \$29.10 towards our 87th \$100. We will announce where the 86th Pennies for missions will go once the Ad Council make the decision. If you have a mission that you think our pennies should go, let the office know.

Keep those "pennies" coming! (Any amount of money is welcome)

Each time we gather \$100 we send that money to a mission local as well as global.
Thank you!

VBS: Passport to Peru

Hola mes amigos! Are your kids ready for an adventure? This year's VBS program is Passport to Peru, and it will be at 6:30 on August 28th - September 1st. All children having completed Pre-K through fifth grade are invited to attend. Children will learn about Christianity in Peru through snacks, games, and cultural exploration. Bible exploration and music are also featured. Additionally, we will be collaborating with a local missions outreach linking our children with other who can benefit from our Christian love. Keep an eye out for our upcoming posters!

Volunteers are still needed and welcomed. Please speak with Katrina Relyea for details regarding this youth ministry.

Sunday School News

What a year it's been in our Sunday School class! Through the help of my fourteen dedicated volunteers, our church's children have been able to experience God's love and explore His teachings within the Bible. It is often the case that when it is time for class to end, I see students not wanting to leave and wishing they could come more often. Once, I was asked by a child if he could spend the night in the church. I replied that when he gets older we might hold a lock-in. Seeing the smiles on the younger ones' faces and starting deeper look deeper conversations with those who are older is a joy I look forward to whenever I get to teach class.

On June 25th, the last day of class, we held a party to celebrate our Bible recipients (Lindsay Melancon, Madeline Melancon, and Caleb Doran) and our studies this school year. We enjoyed a beautiful cake, made by Amanda Relyea, while participating in various crafts based on what we learned. Trips to the treasure chest were awarded to anyone who could recite the memory verse, to the winner of Bible Trivia, and to those with excellent attendance. Zayzay had the best overall attendance record, with Brinley close behind! Spencer, Bella, and Caleb also received honorable mentions for coming to roughly half of the classes. Additionally, we had nine visiting students in our class!

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

COUNTER SCHEDULE

July 2- Bob & Barb Conniff
July 9- Karl Keil
July 16- Debbie Leach
July 23- Dan Coe & Janice Alvord
July 30- Mike Waterman

ACOLYTES

July 2- Carter Keller
July 9- Bella Keller
July 16- Annaka Stauring
July 23- Carter Keller
July 30- Bella Keller
(If you would like to be an acolyte, young and mature welcome, please let the office know)

BIBLE READERS

July 2- Dee Dunn
July 9-
July 16-
July 23-
July 30-
(If you would like to read we have openings. The signup sheet is on the table by the front of the sanctuary, the readings for the rest of the year are there. I will let you know what the reading is the week scheduled. The slip has the possible readings for each service.)

USHER SCHEDULE

July 2- Janice & Todd Alvord;
Charles & Jeri Norton
July 9- Dan & Leslie Coe;
Leo Seaton; Alice Trumble
July 16- Steve & Racheal Keller;
Carol Stauring; Bernice Flagg
July 23- Karl & Judy Keil;
Joanne Karboski; Morgan Comins
July 30- Bill & Jan Bickford;
Dan & Leslie Coe

COMMUNION STEWARDS

July 2- Dan & Leslie Coe; Janice Alvord
(If you would like to help with communion, please see Leslie Coe. Our teams take care of communion about 2-3 times for the year)

American Red Cross Bloodmobile News

The next Bloodmobile will be **July 10, 2017 1:00-6:00pm**. Come out and help to meet or exceed the goal!

Our July goal is for 37 pints, going over is great. The need is great at this time. Please make an appointment to give today.

Rapid Pass allows you to complete the reading material and the questions the day of your donation, but before you arrive. This will allow more donors by speeding up your registration process. Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to learn more.

Please help by sharing the gift of life, the need is always present. The cost to you is about one hour of your time.

Adult Study News

Sunday Morning:

SEEKERS adult study group meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:40 in the Library Lounge. All are invited to join us on our journey through life via the Bible.

Loaves & Fishes (Wednesday evening)

We are taking the summer off and will start meeting again in September. We will have 7 lessons of the Disciple I course left to complete in September. This is a 34 week study with daily reading and thought provoking questions. We have been having very interesting discussions. Come join us!

Food Pantry News for April 2017

Dear friends,

We had fewer families than expected in May, only 89 families, 268 individuals and gave out 4,020 meals.

We had ... 89 families, 268 individuals and gave out 4,020 meals.

However, it was a wonderful month for fresh produce. We purchased cucumbers, peppers, onions, and apples from the food bank. This order came at the beginning of the month. Then, the middle of the month, we got a donation of 50 pounds of salt potatoes. The end of the month, we received romaine lettuce and lots of carrots from the Vienna giveaway. Plus, the Community Gardens came through with their first harvest of spinach and radishes.

Our church giving for May was \$244 and 164 food and other items for a total of approximately 400 entire meals.

Thank you all for providing us with your gifts of sharing and caring.

Forever Grateful,
The Camden Area Food Pantry Staff and Clients

The Camden Area Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 12:30 PM, and now Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm. Phone (315) 245-5788.

Something to Think About

The first part of our current vision statement says "Grow closer to God through regular Bible study, prayer, and meditation – both individually and in groups." Being part of a study group like our Wednesday night Loaves and Fishes or Sunday morning Seekers is a great way to do that. But if it's not possible or practical for you to participate in that way, never fear! There are sincere, trustworthy, dedicated folks out there who can guide your faith journey whenever and wherever works for you.

Sunday School News Cont.

With Sunday School in recess for the summer, we are all looking forward to VBS. Are you looking for a way to help out? We still need assistant activity leaders, crew chaperones, and registration helpers. These are easy commitments that could range from one night to all five. You decide! If you want more information or are ready to join our VBS team e-mail me at unfortunateevents11@yahoo.com or leave a message at (315)245-3817. You can join us for our VBS volunteer potluck luncheon on July 23rd, directly following worship. We will be putting together our supply lists and gathering ideas for decorating our classrooms. The final touches will be underway for our adventure to Peru! Will your child join us?

Pax et bonum,
Katrina Relyea, Sunday School Superintendent

Something to Think About Cont.

Our church library has books to help you deal with life's challenges; to better understand the Bible; to reconcile your Christian beliefs with social and political issues; to learn about our denomination (its history, its purpose, how it is organized); and to find hints and guidelines for church leaders, among other things. We'll try to highlight some of these here from time to time. (Our library works on the honor system, i.e., just take the book you want and return it to the yellow bin when you're finished with it. The library is available anytime the church is open.)

If you prefer to do your reading (or listening) via eBooks or audio books, you can find many good titles at www.cokesbury.com or www.UpperRoom.org.

In a letter to a friend shortly before his death, John Wesley (founder of Methodism) wrote: "It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people." It's something to think about.....

July

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Last Day for Sunday School Cluster 13 Work Group arrives for the week	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30		John Wesley's Birthday (1703)			AA- 9:30 am Cub Scouts Fellowship Hall 9-10 Cluster 13 group leaves
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30	Independence Day Office closed	August Newsletter Deadline			AA- 9:30 am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30 Blood Mobile 1-6pm		Villagers 4-?pm			AA- 9:30 am Cluster 13 Work group arrives for the week
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 Choir Rehearsal 10:00am	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30					AA- 9:30 am Cluster 13 group leaves
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40 VBS planning meeting after church	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30					AA- 9:30 am
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Seekers Study 9:45-10:40	Weight Watchers 5:30-7:30		September Newsletter deadline			AA- 9:30 am

Prayer List: Names remain on list for one month, unless requested to keep on the list.

Joseph Wiggins; those with dementia and Alzheimer's, their families & caretakers; Nancy & Rachel Curtis; Darrin Halstead & family; Aaron Keville; those fighting cancer; Police, Fire, Rescue, & Military personnel; Scott Manzer; Destinee Sobles; All religious minorities under persecution; Tom Young; Paul Horn; Those troubled and carrying out violence; Skyla; Liborio Barbagallo; Service members & families; Jack Estrella; The world, our country; Students, Teachers, & Parents; Lillian; Carole Abbott; Terry Polini & family; Marcia Bogle; Walt DeLosh; Prayers to calm hearts; Brayden Hughes; Cindy Polniaszek; Jeff Johnson's friend Carole; Susane Lewchanin; those dealing with loss from violence, hurt, and anger around the world; Tom Fanning; Those dealing with domestic abuse; Diane Hayes; Families dealing with health issues and concern for finances; Rosemary Winters; those dealing with colds, flu and seasonal depression; Rev. Janet Gibbs; Carolyn Dixon; Those dealing with recent accidents; Tim; Susan Lewchanin; London and areas of recent violence; Dan Dunn; Grace Thorp's family; Those dealing with Manchester events; Lesley Mahoney; Buddy Waters' family; Coptic Churches in Egypt; Betty Higham's family; Dennis Kemp's family; Travel mercies for those moving; Melody Habeeb; Stephen & Betty Carpenter

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