



THE MESSENGER

Steele Memorial United Methodist Church

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March 2015

REFLECTIONS FROM PREACHER JOHN Seven Years at Steele Memorial U. M. C.

I will be retiring from active ministry starting July 1, 2015. Jan and I have been in the day by day ministry since 1975. At Annual Conference in June, I will celebrate serving United Methodist Churches in WV for 40 years.

Jan and I have had to make a hard decision in the last few months. Jan's health is not well and we came to the realization that now is the time, in the midst of health problems, to retire. This decision is the right one. Yet, I still have a great desire and passion to continue in ministry. I'm sure I will be a part in God's work in some form, but now is the time to shift gears and remove my selfish desires since God has showed us his new path for our lives.

Jan and I started this ministry together in Fort Gay, WV. We had our first child with us (Tami) as I started my college degree 40 miles away at Marshall University. I left a good salary from a power plant, \$18,000 to receive a church salary of \$4,200. We were poor in finances but rich in God. We had to sacrifice a lot, but God made everything to work out for His good in our lives. We often faced more month than money.

The U. M. Church has been good to us. I've been able to receive a college education (B.A.) from Marshall University, an M.D. degree and a D. M. degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, since I began serving the U. M. Churches. We truly appreciated everything God has provided. God is so good!

Come this June at Annual Conference, we will celebrate God's goodness throughout all these years in ministry. We have been a part of major building programs. We have been a part of parsonages refurbished in all kinds of ways and even the new one here at Steele Memorial. We also have seen the same thing in churches, even the building of a new sanctuary. We have been a part of turning a WV National Guard Building into a Community Family Life Center with a football and baseball field. We have been a part of building a first time parking lot, creating food pantries, purchasing church property, building an outside children's playground, starting a summer work team for outside groups to come in to serve, and so much, much more. I'm tired just in recalling so much.

Here at Steele Memorial we are blessed with the new parsonage built to conference guidelines and a new van. I have seen in 7 years: 4 youth directors, 2 choir directors, 2 church secretaries and 2 treasurers.

More than material things, I've been blessed to see many souls saved, transformed by the power of God. I've seen Christians revived and serving God by serving others. I have been able to see baptized Christians join the Lord's church. What a joy it is to be among Christian people who do God's work in this world. I've enjoyed celebrating baptisms, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, communion, visiting, counseling, praying for so many, being with people in crisis situations and much more.

I have so much joy to celebrate and share, but I must close for now.

Jan and I will be retiring to Monroe County on July 1st where 2 of our 3 children live. 5 of our 8 grandchildren live there. Our home is 3 miles outside of Peterstown, WV on Mountain View Sub-division Road. We have a beautiful view from our living room window of Peters Mountain where the Appalachian Trail is located.

I have not heard who will be assigned as the new pastor to Steele Memorial U.M.C. As this information becomes available, I will share it with you. Until then, thanks be to God for the path in which He leads us.

With much love,
Preacher John and Jan

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. The offering provides administrative support for the United Methodist Committee on Relief as it responds to disaster survivors and people in need around the world.

United Methodists relate to **One Great Hour of Sharing** by supporting UMCOR's ongoing work, responding in times of disaster and telling the story of UMCOR's ministry.

Your donation to the One Great Hour of Sharing enables UMCOR to serve children, families and communities when disaster strikes. Thank you for giving generously today.



Don't forget to
SPRING forward!!

Daylight saving time goes into effect at 2 a.m. March 8.



Girl Scout Week, March 8-14, 2015: Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March. It starts with Girl Scout Sunday and ends with Girl Scout Sabbath on a Saturday, and it always includes the Girl Scout Birthday.



Palm Sunday is an Easter celebration that commemorates the fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9 where Jesus makes his triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. The event took place one week prior to His resurrection, and it is a day that kicks off the Holy Week. But why the palms? The palms we now wave in our Palm Sunday celebrations represent the palms that were waved by the crowd and placed in Jesus' path when he rode the donkey into Jerusalem. In many churches the palms are then saved to be burned after and used the following year in the Ash Wednesday services.



DO YOU LIKE PANCAKES? The Souls of Steele (SOS) Youth are having a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Chili's on March 21st from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Tickets are \$5.00. For tickets, see Bobby or Megan. Make plans to have breakfast at Chili's at the Huntington Mall on this day to help support the SOS of Steele Memorial.

MISSIONS: Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action is dead. - James 2:15

The **CELEBRATION OF MISSION EVENT** will be at 12:30 on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at Community of Grace UMC in Huntington, in conjunction with the Western District Conference.

In 2014, churches in the WV Conference raised more than \$96,000 in cash for WV Mission Projects. The three missions being emphasized in the Western District for 2015 are COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH MINISTRIES, GREATER CLARKSBURG COOPERATIVE PARISH, and TYRAND COOPERATIVE PARISH. All of these missions are fighting the cold with food, clothing, heating vouchers, and home repairs. Each is unique in the services they provide for their communities. Some emphasize food pantries, thrift stores, camps, Christmas toys, and home repairs. Others provide emergency assistance with rent, utilities, and prescriptions as well as disaster shelters. But, they cannot do their work, if we do not do ours! The churches of the WV Conference must do their part in providing for these missions.

What can YOU do? You can help by donating ANY of the items on the following list. I will have detailed lists in Sunday school classes. Thank you in advance for helping some of God's children that you may never meet!

Items needed:

- Food items - non-perishable foods, healthy snacks, canned foods, dry beans, and peanut butter
- Baby items - bottles, sippy cups, diapers, clothes, wipes, formula, food, blankets, lotion, shampoo, mattresses, beds
- Personal care items - toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant, disposable razors
- Children's items - underwear, socks, gloves, toys, school supplies grades K-12
- School supplies - 70 sheet spiral notebooks, glue, crayons, loose leaf paper, highlighters, rulers, book bags, erasers, scissors, folders, pens, pencils
- Cleaning and home supplies - dish washing liquid, laundry detergent, bleach, sponges, all-purpose

cleaners, window cleaner, toilet cleaner, toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags

--Home repair - hammers, nails, paint brushes, rollers and pans, work gloves, shovels, rakes, tape measures

As you can see, the list is very long, as are the needs. So, please don't come to church empty-handed, come and share God's goodness

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH

MINISTRIES: Three year-round ministry sites include:

Heart and Hand, Coal Branch Heights, and CDOM main office. Ministries include: Food Pantry, Thrift Store, School Supply Drive, Summer Day Camp, Campership Program, Christmas Toys and Food, Housing Rehab Program, Prison Re-Entry Volunteer Program, Garment Printing Services

Needs list: snacks, toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags, dishwashing liquid, non-perishable foods, diapers, bottles, baby clothes and blankets, baby beds and mattresses, wipes, formula, baby food, baby shampoo and lotion, school supplies K-12, tools, building supplies



LADIES: For spring we are going to try something different we are going to do Beth Moore's LOVING WELL. It is a four week video series. There is no homework, just come and enjoy the video. We thought it would be a nice way for someone who has not been a part of the studies to get a taste of it, and a nice break for those of us who did the in-depth studies with all the daily homework. It will run 4 weeks on Tuesday night at 7:00 upstairs in the Pennington Chapel.

Some people are easy to love, and some are difficult to love, and we all have to deal with some people who are humanly impossible to love. In all those relationships one truth endures: We will never be able to love others well until we have been loved well. And only God can ultimately give us the complete love we so desperately need.

We hope you will find the time to join us starting April 7, 14, 21 and 28.

UMW MISSION SUPPORT FOR MARCH/APRIL will be donations for ECCHO and/or donations listed in the bulletin by Missions Committee for the Western District. PLEASE NOTE: UMW will also be collecting any BABY ITEMS for our 'baby shower' in May for Lily's Place. Those items, please bring to the next circle meeting, or give items to your circle leader.

ESTHER/RUTH CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 PM in OFH. We will continue our study, HAVING A MARY HEART IN A MARTHA WORLD, Chapter 2. Also, please bring personal care items (toiletries) or school supplies (pencils, notebooks, pens) to the meeting, as our mission donation for the Western District Spring Meeting, OR bring any BABY ITEMS for the 'baby shower' in May for Lily's Place.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN from our church will be attending the Western District Spring Meeting at Johnson Memorial UMC on Saturday, March 28. We will be taking our donations of personal care items and school supplies that we have collected. If you would like to attend, please contact your circle leader or the church office. Cost is \$5 for the lunch (payable that day). The speaker will be BISHOP SANDRA STEINER-BALL. We hope to have a good representation from our church and from our district UMW.



ANNUAL WOMEN'S EASTER BREAKFAST

- all women of our church have been invited to attend the 41st Annual Women's Easter Breakfast on Saturday, March 28, 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall of First UMC of Barboursville. This is an open event and an opportunity to fellowship with other women from area churches. The cost is \$4.00 per person (payable that day at the door). However, please make reservations with Joyce Owens (304-736-3633) or with Joyce Spencer (304-736-4522).



ALL STARS FOR JESUS: March is a very awesome month for our All Stars for Jesus members and staff. Each week, we will discover and study one of the many amazing events leading up to Easter! **Ash Wednesday** will be our first event to learn about, and it also introduces us to the season of **Lent**. Our staff has exciting things planned for our All Stars as they prepare for the Easter season and become familiar with what each event symbolizes. We will also have our annual **Church-Wide Easter Egg Hunt** on Wednesday, April 1 at Shelters 5 & 6 at the Barboursville Park. Plan to arrive no later than 5:30 with a dozen eggs to hide. Don't forget a container to collect eggs in. The adults will hide the eggs while I entertain the kiddos. It is an EGG-citing evening for all! We have extended our mission project due to bad weather. Join us at our **Wednesday WIPEOUT** on February 25 and March 4 as we collect **Baby Wipes** to help those less fortunate.



Girls of Faith: Our March study is called...**Mouth Management 101**. Mouth management doesn't start with the mouth at all. It actually starts with the heart. Fortunately, God didn't leave us alone in this task. It is a team effort, and our Dream Team is made up of us, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. With their help, we can resist the temptation to "Jab Gab!" We will take an honest look inside our heart and clean it up so that what bubbles out is good!



YOUTH:

Jesus Christ is alive and working overtime for the youth at Steele Memorial UMC. On February 18, 2015, Preacher John baptized 7 of our youth members. This was truly one of the best days of my life. The program appears to be growing. The numbers show that the first Wednesday night in December we had 27 youth and on February 11 we had 41 youth who attended our program. We have a solid mix of boy/girls with a good mix of high school/middle school participants. This is a breakdown of each category: High School Girls-30% High School Boys-17% Middle School Girls-16% Middle School Boys-37% Total Boys -54% Total Girls-46%

We must give all the Glory to God because these youth are truly coming to seek Him. Proverbs 8:17 says: I love those who love me; and those who diligently seek me will find me.

The youth have started a praise and worship band and their first performance will be in the Sanctuary on April 19, 2015. It is my belief that this will be a blessing to all age groups.

The SOS Youth supports a 5-year old boy Emmanuel from Tanzania. The youth are funding this mission themselves through weekly offerings. The amount needed each month is \$38.00 which assists Emmanuel with his daily needs. In January the youth wrote a letter to Emmanuel telling him about who we are, where we live, and what we like to do. Emmanuel wrote us a note telling us to pray for him to succeed and about his family. This mission is supported by Compass International.

SOS completed two fundraisers in February and would like to thank each one of you who supported these fundraisers. These fundraisers will assist the youth for their Ski Trip that is scheduled for Feb 28, 2015. We also have two additional fundraisers scheduled in March (Bake Sale March 8 at Steele following the 11:00 service and a Pancake Breakfast March 21, at Chili's from 8-10). These fundraisers will help support our overnight trip to Winter Jam in Lexington KY on March 28, 2015.

SOS would like to thank Maggie Chenoweth for all her help with the youth page on our web site. We have added a calendar, permission slips, schedule of events and a link to the face book page. We have also added a tab for any parent who would like to view the lessons. Once the lessons are given we are trying to post them to the website. Please visit us on the web steelememorial.com (youth tab) to find all the exciting events going on with the youth at Steele Memorial UMC.

MEET REV. KEVIN LANTZ:

Come July 1, 2015, it is the intention of Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball to appoint Rev. Kevin Patton Lantz, 58 years old, to Steele Memorial United Methodist Church. Kevin has served the following churches: Matoaka 1985; New Hope, Princeton 1989; Central, Huntington 1993; and Mt. Pleasant, Mineral Wells 2005.

Kevin received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1980 and his Master of Divinity degree in 1085 from Asbury. He became a deacon and a probational member of the WV Annual Conference in 1984. He became an elder and a full member in 1987.

Kevin is married to Kim. They have 3 children (2 girls and 1 boy) who live in the Huntington area. They have 6 grandchildren. Kevin and Kim's son-in-law teaches at the Barboursville Middle School.

Dinner Reservations for Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Name: _____

No. of Persons: _____

Menu: Pot roast /vegetables, Garden salad, Cornbread muffins and Bread pudding/Vanilla sauce

Reservations must be in by March 2nd in the AM.

Place reservation form in the offering plate or call 304-736-4583

If making a donation by check, please make check out to Steele Memorial Food Ministry.



Prayer Concerns

Al Baker	John Call	Lois Silling
Jan Sauvage	Ron & Jan Foss	Dorcas Watson
Brenda Cornwell	Clay Johnson	Pat Parker
Janice Whitt	Helen McClure	Bill Howard
Libby Burdette	Phyllis Johnson	Pat Miller
Arvin & Debbi Canady	Judy Earls	Jim & Amy Reiter
Arlene Simmons	Cindy Braley	Janice Eddy
Buddy & Lillian Dick	Ott Workman	Kathy Howard
Whit & Virginia Keefer	Allison Scites	Barbara Vaughan
Ann Carter	Catherine Wilkinson	Becky Chenoweth
Boots Cole	Joan Gross	Josephine Crum
Barbara Miller	Shawn Kelley	Gene Gwinn
Norma Holley Swann	Carole Johnson	Rita Kelley
John & Phyllis Griffith		

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE CHURCH WEBSITE?

www.steelmemorial.com

Visit the website to get information about the Youth, All Stars, see a copy of the church bulletin each week, read the monthly newsletter, and see what the Singles and More Sunday school is all about. As we grow, more information will be added.

The website has been beautifully designed by our own Maggie Chenoweth.

Visit the site often to keep up with Steele Memorial activities.

Friends and Relatives

Military Family Members, **Ben Wookey, Frank Giardina** (Friend of Judy May Hayes), **John Minichan** (Neighbor of Jenny & Jack Black), **Canzaza Arkle, Imogene Harshburger** (Mother of Amy Jarvis), **Ed Lombardo** (Son-in-law of Joan Gross), **Pat Lawrence** (Friend of Richard and Peggy Fillmore), **Betty Duncan, Ed & Ann Wood** (Aunt & Uncle of Paul Turman), **Bill Jones** (Uncle of Brent Kimball), **Alana Campbell and Dennis Holbrook** (Friends of Pete and Susan Kelley), **2-Year old Ella Maynard, Pearl Price** (92 year old aunt of Fern Allred), **Debbie Chapman** (Friend of Karen Canfield), **Rodney Holbrook** (Husband of Georgann Holbrook), **Joan Gue** (Sister of Paul Hockenberry), **Walter Harshbarger, Paul Edwards, Linda Jack** (Mother of Karyn Kimball), **Maggie Holton** (3 year old daughter of Kim & Rob Holton and friend of the Damron's), **Bill Flood** (Nephew-in-law of Julia Dickens), **Bill Kelley** (Father of Chris Kelley), **Evelyn Rae O'Dell, Corb Savchet** (Kim Allman Westerfield's father-in-law), **Steve Osburn, Kalli Moore, Jean Anne McClung, Marjorie Adams** (Mother of Don Williams), **Euna Ballengee** (Sister of Kevin Ballengee), **Charlene Wooddell Whanger** (Sister of Ron Wooddell), **Clay Johnson, William Crews** (Father of Dr. Greg Crews), **Joshua Duce, Jessica Capron** (Grand-daughter of Amy Reiter), **Evelyn Paugh, Betty Nutter** (Mother of Sandy Rupert), **Pollyanne** (Sister of Rev. Sager), **Angie Jarvis, Dallas Baker** (Brother of Al Baker), **Randall Ryder** (Father of Tony Ryder), **Hilda & Jim Dutrow** (Aunt & Uncle of Tony Ryder), **Virginia Chapman** (Mother of Ed Chapman), **Cynthia Turnbull** (Grandmother of Mandy Saunders), **Anne Grant**, (Grandmother of Jeff Snell), **Paul Braley** (Father of Cindy Braley & Penny Saylor), **Kaylee Elmore** (Friend of Chris Kelley), **Dreama Weatherholt** (Sister of Kathy Howard), **Sandra Jaynes** (Niece of Pat Gwinn), **Bill Ray** (Cousin of Debra Browning), **Jimmy Hicks** (Son of Peggy Hicks), **Greg Wellman** (Brother-in-law of Rita Kelley), **Linda Bowman's Family, Kayelin Ryder** (Daughter of Tony Ryder), **Randy Ryder** (Brother of Tony Ryder), **Jim Sacconi** (Friend of Arlene Simmons), **Debbie Fry** (Daughter of Raymond Blake), **Bucky Rakes** (Friend of Pete and Susan Kelley), **Kiser Family** (Friends of Sydney Adkins), **Helen Weekly** (Mother of Bill Weekly) **Jack Stewart** (Neighbor of Karen Canfield), **Cindy Lewis & Carleigh** (Family of Karen Canfield), **Janet Newman** (Friend of Karen Canfield), **Theodosia Johnson, Rita Damron** (Friend of Susan Kelley), **A. Michael Perry** (Friend of Fern Allred), **Dylan Parsons-Wells** (Infant cousin of Nina Forjone), **Virginia Bowen** (Niece of Gary Cox), **Family of Arvil Wilburn** (Friends of Amy Reiter), **Aunt Rosie** (Aunt of Karen Canfield), **Jim Dodds** (Brother of Brenda Morning), **Donn Hoffmann** (Father of Jennifer D'Antonio), **Jennifer Shaw** (Sister of Dale Chambers and friend of John & Susan Call), **Alma Fain** (Aunt of Bill Dutton), **Bob & Kathy Webb** (Friends of Ed & Patty Peckham), **Paula Hamady** (Friend of Ed & Patty Peckham), **John Paul Short** (Son of Vickie & Paul Short), **Randy Jones** (Brother of Tenny Crockett), **Hazel Price** (Relative of Karen Canfield), **Willy Freeman** (Friend of Karen Canfield), **Conner Kimball** (Nephew of Brent Kimball), **Judy Williams** (Friend of D. Chapman), **Amanda Wilcox** (Friend of Pamela Dunfee), **Jennifer Brick** (Niece of Pamela Dunfee)

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Second Sunday in Lent -Early Worship 9 AM -Sunday School 9:45 -Morning Worship 11:00 -Youth Group 6:00 -Evening Worship 6:30	2 Preschool reg. for community 8 AM in gym -Cub Scouts 6:30 -Sea Scouts 6:30 -Boy Scouts 7:30	3	4 All Stars 5:30 -Middle Sch. All Stars 5:30 -Church Dinner & Bible Study 6:00 -Youth 6:45 -Choir Practice 7:45	5	6	7 Dist. Pinewood derby, 8-2 gym & NFH
8 Third Sunday in Lent -Daylight Saving Time Begins -Girl Scout Sunday -Early Worship 9 AM -Sunday School 9:45 -Morning Worship 11:00 -Youth Bake Sale after Worship -Youth Group 6:00 -Evening Worship 6:30	9 Trustee Com. 7:00 -Cub Scouts 6:30 -Sea Scouts 6:30 -Boy Scouts 7:30	10 Finance Com. 7:00	11 All Stars 5:30 -Middle Sch. All Stars 5:30 -Bible Study 6:45 -Youth 6:45 -Choir Practice 7:45	12 Lydia Circle 1:00 -Esther/Ruth Circle 6:30 in OFH -Troop 88 7:00	13	14
15 Fourth Sunday in Lent -One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday -Early Worship 9 AM -Sunday School 9:45 -Morning Worship 11:00 -Youth Group 6:00 -Evening Worship 6:30	16 Adm. Council 7:00 -Cub Scouts 6:30 -Sea Scouts 6:30 -Boy Scouts 7:30	17	18 No All Stars -Bible Study 6:45 -Choir Practice 7:45	19	20	21 Youth Fundraiser- Pancake breakfast at Chili's 8 AM -10 AM
22 Fifth Sunday in Lent -Early Worship 9 AM -Sunday School 9:45 -Morning Worship 11:00 -Youth Group 6:00 -Evening Worship 6:30	23 Cub Scouts 6:30 -Sea Scouts 6:30 -Boy Scouts 7:30	24	25 All Stars 5:30 -Middle Sch. All Stars 5:30 -Bible Study 6:45 -Youth 6:45 -Choir Practice 7:45	26 Troop 88 7:00	27	28 C. Sullivan NFH All day -Youth to Winter Jam overnight- Lexington, KY
29 Palm Sunday -Early Worship 9 AM -Sunday School 9:45 -Morning Worship 11:00 -Youth Group 6:00 -Evening Worship 6:30	30 Cub Scouts 6:30 -Sea Scouts 6:30 -Boy Scouts 7:30	31				

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Jack Austin Lois Baker Judy Hayes	4 Andrew Damron Luke Damron	5 Paul Turman, Sr.	6	7 Mildred Maynard <i>Randy & Stephanie Taylor</i>
8 Laura Blake Danny Childers	9	10	11	12 Ott Workman	13 <i>Paul & Kara Insalaco</i>	14
15 Peggy Fillmore Corey McGhee Ralph Sager	16 Carl Sullivan	17 <i>Reid & Sue Ann Carroll</i>	18 Debbie Childers	19	20 <i>Mike & Jean Anne McClung</i>	21 Willie Adkins Jake Fife Teresa Pickett
22 Alexis Adkins Sue Ballengee Nikki Kimball Angie Lingenfelter	23 <i>Bobby & Mollie Bannister</i>	24 Greg Crews <i>Duke & Misty Hutchinson</i>	25	26 Allison Jones Allyson Chapman	27 Chase Blower Linda Kelly	28 Tim Damron Clay Johnson <i>Greg & Connie Gesner</i>
29 Tom Baker	30	31 Paul Hockenberry <i>Brad & Crystal Merritt</i>				

Parking Lot Greeters

3-1-15	Tony Ryder	Monica Jackson
3-8-15	Mike McClung	Pat Cornwell
3-15-15	Donnie Barbour	Kelly McGuffin
3-22-15	Gary Cox	Kim Stanley
3-29-15	Larry Dickens	Tony Ryder

