



# The Valley Echo

St. Matthew's United Church of Christ  
June 2013



## Contact Information

### Interim Pastor

**Gerald (Gerry) C. Hanberry**  
301-788-6546

### Council

**President:** Allen Dutterer  
**Vice-Pres.:** Sharon Chapman  
**Secretary:** Timna Shaw  
**Treasurer:** Dale Geiman

### Elders

Angie Bowersox  
Sharon Chapman  
Ketti Dutterer  
Justin Geiman  
Genny Rohrbach  
Robert Smith

### Ministry Team Leaders

**Finance:** Dale Geiman  
**Christian Ed:** Susie Gist  
**Outreach:** Timna Shaw  
**Pastor/Staff:** Donna Geiman  
**Property- (acting leader):**  
Allen Dutterer  
**Worship:** Donna Geiman

### Committees/Groups

**ABC Singles:**  
Mary Emma Bowen

**Consignment Sale:**  
Vicki Huber-Geiman

**F.A.I.T.H.:**  
Lynn Walter

**Fall Fest :**  
Betty Cree

**Wellness:**  
Mary Emma Bowen,  
Parish Nurse

## Interim Pastor's Column --- The Rev. Dr. Gerald (Gerry) C. Hanberry...

As we continue this shared journey of **Intentional Interim Ministry**, I am thinking about some of the basic questions that might help us reflect on why we are even engaged in this journey in the first place.

As a congregation, St. Matthew's UCC has been through a series – a rather long and involved series to be sure – of interims, revitalization efforts and most recently an almost five-year “contract pastorate” designed to bring even more vitality to your lives.

Having read in one of your publications that “St. Matthew's UCC has strengthened or increased its vitality spiritually but not financially, I am curious and excited about discovering what this increased spiritual vitality really looks like. Indeed, what does it mean to you to be spiritually vital and strong and yet not financially strong. This could mean a number of different things as we move through this period of transition.

Anthony Robinson (his latest books are: Leadership for Vital Congregations and Stewardship for Vital Congregations) and Diana Butler Bass (two of her popular books are: Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church Is Transforming the Faith and Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening

These two writers are former pastors and now leading consultants on church vitality and growth. I found these books helpful in sharpening and framing some questions for us to consider. These questions focus mainly on those characteristics that mark vital and thriving churches versus those that are more stagnant and stuck.

Robinson and Bass **suggest that any organization (and especially a church)**

**that is to thrive needs to have the qualities and feel of a “movement”.** They describe “Spiritual Movements” as: Being on the move and headed somewhere; having a clear and compelling sense of purpose or mission; and, as being all about change and making a difference in the lives of people, e.g., “civil rights movement,” “green movement,” etc.

On the opposite side, when a church doesn't possess the qualities of a “Spiritual Movement,” “you end up with institutions that feel settled, sometimes stuck and whose main hope seems that they will simply survive.”

The question that remains is whether mainline churches can be a movement instead of a religious institution. Robinson writes: “There was a time when liberal Christianity and theology did have a movement feel, when it was catching a wave rather than drowning in one.”

Diana Butler Bass, author of “Christianity for the Rest of Us” argues it can happen. It can happen only if churches remember they are in the business of changing lives (being disciples who make disciples), and not simply providing services to those in need or providing comfort and care to their members. The bottom line: **be a spiritual movement, not a social service institution.**

Now to the basic questions:

- ☐ Does your church (St. Matthew's UCC) feel like a “movement” or an “institution”?
- ☐ Is your church's ministry more for those outside our doors, or inside our doors?

(Continued on page 2.)

(Pastor's Column continued from page 1)

- ☐ Is your church's ministry more about changing lives, or maintaining an institution?
- ☐ Does your church talk about and embrace change, or work hard to keep things as they are?
- ☐ Does your church feel like it is "on the move", or more like "it is stuck" where it is?
- ☐ Does your church talk about change in people (spiritual transformation, growth in discipleship, spiritual maturity), or spend little time talking about these issues?
- ☐ Does your church think about how it can minister to people in new ways, even if it means being the church in new, un-chartered ways, or does it do ministry according to the rules and the way we have always done ministry?
- ☐ Is the mission of your church more about ministering to people in life-changing and Christ-changing ways, or is it more about giving money away?

One might say that "the basic premise is that **growing churches** (no matter liberal, moderate, conservative) **is more about spiritual movement**: ministry that is moving, life changing, making a difference and spiritually transforming people."

The process of addressing these sorts of question "doesn't happen overnight, and it takes time and conversation – honest conversation." Churches that can be self-reflective, be in conversation, about its mission and purpose and seek to find new ways to be the church, can move towards becoming a spiritual movement.

For now, I offer these ideas and questions as food for thought. I look forward to our conversations as we journey together.

**Faithfully, Pastor Gerry Hanberry**

## Christian Education News

Just a reminder, our Summer Sunday School will begin on June 2, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. We have all of our classes combined and young and old can enjoy each other as we have our lessons. This is a good time for our regular teachers to get a break from preparing a lesson every week. If anyone would be interested in teaching a Sunday this summer, please let Susie Gist know. Hope to see you at Sunday School.



## Wellness

### Shingles Vaccine

I just received my Shingles Vaccine at a Pharmacy. My Medical Doctor couldn't give it to me because she doesn't have a freezer. I was told at two pharmacies it was \$100+, so I called medicare management and was told that my supplemental had to approve the cost. When I finally got the vaccine, it was \$45.00, and worth the hassle. Why did I put myself thru this to get the vaccine? I had chickenpox (two times per my Mom) and now my friends are getting shingles because the vaccine was not available when we were children. Once we had chicken pox it stays in our bodies and can cause shingles years later. It is [a] very painful rash which lasts 2 - 4 weeks, and 1 in 5 have pain long after the rash. A shingles vaccine is recommended for adults 60 years of age and older, but some people should not get [the] shingles vaccine or should wait...

- \* has ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to gelatin, the antibiotic neomycin, or any other component of shingles vaccine.
- \* has a weakened immune system because of current:
  - AIDS or another disease that affects the immune system
  - treatment with drugs that affect the immune system, such as prolonged use of high dose steroids
  - cancer treatment such as radiation or chemotherapy
  - cancer affecting the bone marrow or lymphatic system, such as leukemia or lymphoma
  - is pregnant, or might be pregnant

Someone with a minor acute illness, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. But anyone with acute illness should wait until they recover before getting the vaccine. This includes anyone with a temperature of 101.3°F or higher.

You will need a R/X from your doctor for the vaccine. Any questions call me, Mary Emma Bowen, Parish Nurse 410-876-419.

(This info was taken from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)

~ Mary Emma Bowen

## Notes & Thank Yous

A special thank you to a few folks for donating supplies to our Sunday School. Pat Desautels donated construction paper, Dan and Terry Smith donated markers, crayons, glue sticks, etc. and Allen and Ketti Dutterer donated picture frames that the children decorated for their mothers. We greatly appreciate all of these donations.



## Pastor Hanberry's Approach to and Policy for Pastoral Care

**Confidentiality** in all communications with people in the church is my policy – always. In other words, **“what is shared with me, stays with me.”**

If a person in the church is ill or in the hospital or going to have surgery, I will always ask, **“what do you want me to share with the church about your illness, your surgery, etc., if anything?”** **I, of course, will honor your request and preferences.**

Some folks prefer that their illness or a hospital stay be kept private. Others are more open to sharing with the congregation or desire prayers from the church community. I prefer to follow the wishes of the individual or family directly rather than responding to what one might call “hear-say.” Folks in the congregation may share whatever they choose; however, my policy requires that I speak directly with the person or a primary family member before I share news about a person's life circumstances.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime via my cell phone (301-788-6546) to request a visit, to share a health issue or a pastoral care need. Given the flexibility I will have in serving two churches (St. Matthew's and Emmanuel (Baust), I will be in a good position to respond to your pastoral care needs as they arise.

## Change

Kenneth L. Samuel

(from Lent Devotionals 2013 Spring Cleaning, pg. 58-59)

*“All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.”* Job 14:14

Change is a major motif among the suffering and the oppressed. I suspect that the hope that his condition could and would be changed is what kept Job alive during the dark midnight of his deep agony and excruciating losses. An old preacher used to tell us that it took a change to get us into our predicaments, and it would surly take a change to get us out of them. As Job discovered, the key to our victories in life is always connected to our willingness to wait until our change comes.

We've heard that the only constant in life is change, but change itself is not inevitable. Someone has to want it and see it. Someone has to pray for it and work for it. Someone has to anticipate it, and plan for it, and understand it, and recognize it, and define it and adjust to it. Waiting for change is by no means passive.

The Mahatma Ghandi challenges us to “Be the change that we wish to see in the world.” In our living embodiment of the change we want to see, we become the active agents of its realization. The moment that we become dedicated to change is the moment that change begins. True change always happens from the inside out. And true change always begins with the person who wants to see change happen.

In his beloved rhapsody of change, Sam Cooke sings: “I was born by the river, in a little tent. Oh and just like the river I've been runnin' ever since. It's been a long, a long time comin', but I know a change gon' come. Oh yes it will!”

If you've ever heard Sam Cooke sing that song, you are convinced that the person heralding the coming of change in the song has already been changed. He is not just passively hoping for change. He is giving passionate presence and passionate impetus to the change he wants to see. And by the transformation that can only be generated by the sheer force of transformed soul power, we are all convicted, converted and convinced that “change gon' come. Yes it will!”

**Lord, please allow the changes that we want to see, be seen in us. Amen.**

~Susie Gist

## Silver Run Community Food Pantry

located at  
**St. Mary's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
3978 Littlestown Pike, Westminster

(Carroll Food Sunday Affiliate)

(Distributed from Parish House located directly behind  
Church, Mayberry Road Entrance)



**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
of the Month  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

Non-Perishable Food Items Distributed.

*All Are Welcome!  
Donations Accepted!*

Email: [foodpantry@stmaryselc.org](mailto:foodpantry@stmaryselc.org)



## Sunday School Picnic

June 23, 2013 following worship service. Come enjoy an indoor and outdoor picnic. St. Matthew's will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks and paper products. We ask that folks bring a dish to share. Games, fun and fellowship.

The planning group would appreciate if you could sign-up to help us prepare.



What could I bring?- Bring a dish to share, a salad, a hot dish or a dessert. Main dish, place settings and drinks will be provided. Help us prepare by filling out the form below and return to the church office by (June 16<sup>th</sup>).

### St. Matthew's Church Picnic – June 23, 2013

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_

#### I/we will bring:

(please check)

\_\_\_\_\_ Salad (type) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Hot Dish (type) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Dessert (type) \_\_\_\_\_

*(Place in the offering plate or in the church office.)*

## Pleasant Valley Community VBS

### Kingdom Chronicles:



**Standing Strong in the  
Battle for Truth  
Ephesians 6:10-18**



**June 24 – 28, 2013**  
(please register by June 1<sup>st</sup>)  
**9:30am to 11:45am**

Pleasant Valley Playground at  
High Street/Church Street

Children Ages 5 to 10 Are Welcome to Participate

Cost: \$5 per child (\$20 family maximum).

Cost covers a daily snack and craft supplies.

Please make checks payable to Karen Stevens.

Mail or drop off: 1407 High St., Westminster, MD 21158

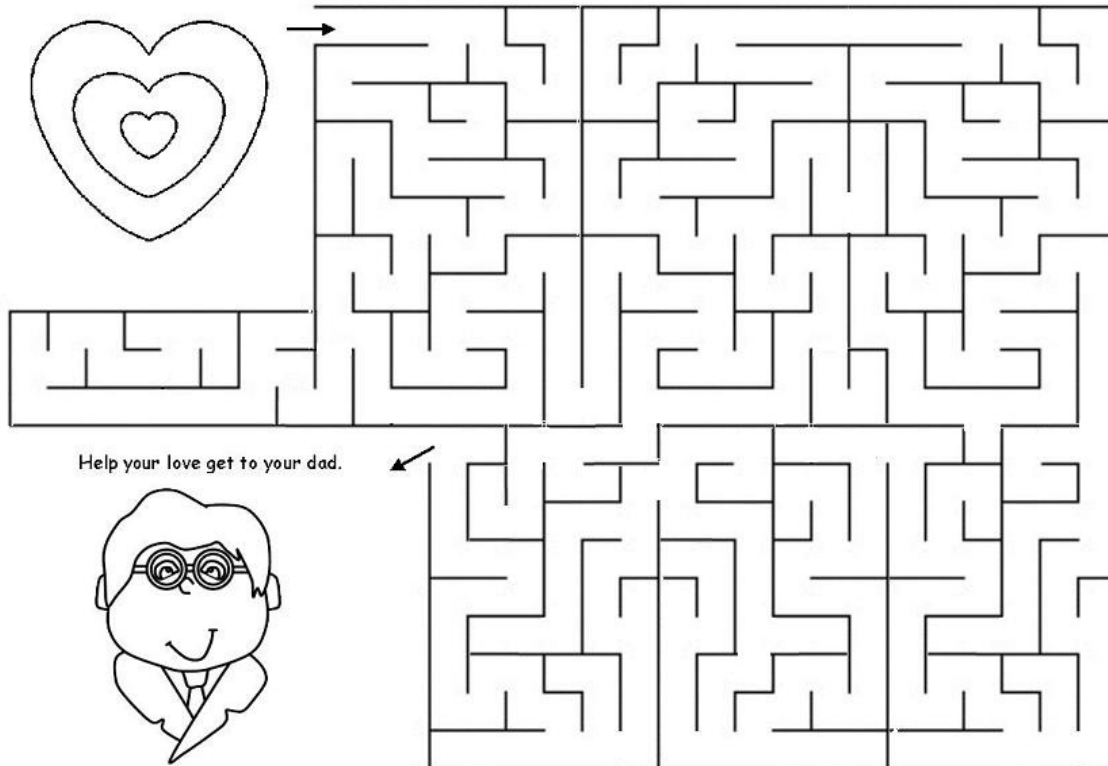
**To Register Please Call  
Karen Stevens at 443-744-6412**

The Pleasant Valley Vacation Bible School is being sponsored and organized by Karen Stevens, 443-744-6412. Tracey Willet, 443-375-6599 and Deanna Geiman, 410-751-6844 for the purpose of promoting Christian Values and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ among interested children and neighbors in our community. We are moms, we represent multiple denominations, and we will receive NO profit from this endeavor. Please contact us for more information, or check out [www.AnswersVBS.com](http://www.AnswersVBS.com).

## Our Mission 4/1 Effort

A beautiful Saturday morning was the background for our members to help clean up God's creation. Six members cleaned up Hughes Shop Road between Stone and Baugher Road, and enjoyed the walk. We picked up 14 bags of trash- amazing how much gets thrown out of cars. A group of youth cleaned up the flower beds and planted flowers to beautify the church. Ask some of the children about "moving the naked ladies from the front of the church to the side flower bed." Everyone, youth and adults had a great morning, enjoying the fellowship and caring for God's wonderful earth.

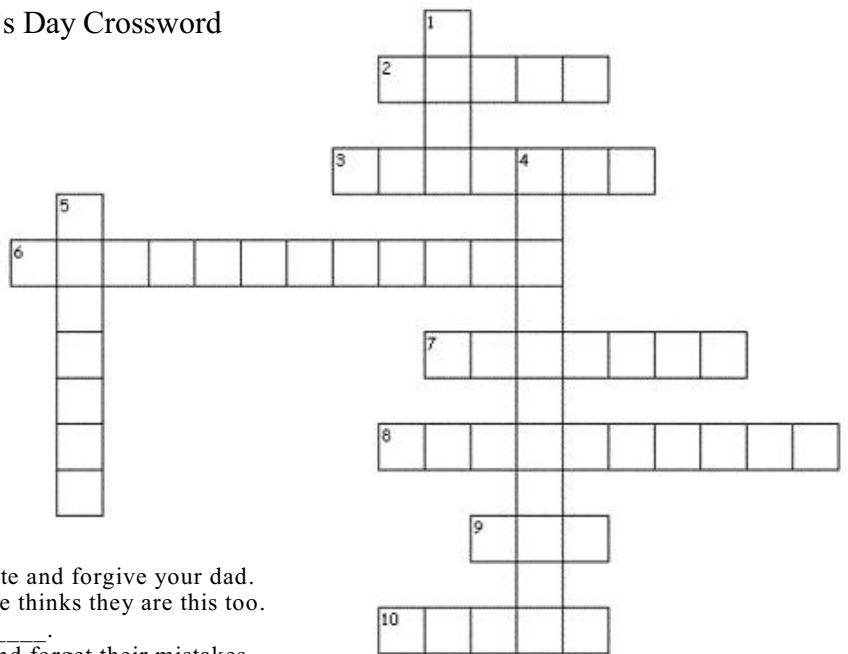
# Kid's Corner



## Father's Day Crossword

### Word List

commandments	fix
discipline	honor
forgive	holiday
instruction	love
special	thank



### Across

- We are doing this when we listen, obey, appreciate and forgive your dad.
- God talks about our father in the Bible because he thinks they are this too.
- Honor your father and mother is one of the ten \_\_\_\_\_.
- Dad's make mistakes too so remember to \_\_\_\_\_ and forget their mistakes.
- Dad's do this when we do something wrong so we learn from our mistakes.
- When your dad can't \_\_\_\_\_ a problem remember you have a heavenly Father that wants to help.
- Remember to \_\_\_\_\_ your dad for all he does for you and your family.

### Down

- Make sure to show your dad lots of this by hugging and telling him this.
- Listen to your father's \_\_\_\_\_ and you will learn to have discipline and understanding.
- Father's day is a special \_\_\_\_\_ to appreciate your dad.

8 discipline, 9 f  
5 Holiday, 6 co  
1 love, 2 honor  
**Answers**



## Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines

The Office Assistant will be on vacation June 14<sup>th</sup> - June 22<sup>nd</sup>. She asks that you please have your bulletin announcements to her by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

The deadline (last day to submit) for the July/August 2013 issue of The Valley Echo is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month (June 19<sup>th</sup>). If you're able to submit your newsletter articles before the Office Assistant's vacation, it would be greatly appreciated.

## WANTED: Folks to Share Their Talents

During the summer the choir takes a break. We would enjoy some of you sharing your gifts and talents with us during worship. Many of the youth play instruments or sing at school, this is a great way to keep up your skills.

Please call Donna Geiman (410-848-0010) to schedule the Sunday for opportunity to share.

## Meeting and Events Calendars

2013 monthly calendars are on the bulletin board in the entrance hall to the church. Please remember to list the meetings or special events your committee/team has planned. This information is used in the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

St. Matthew's helps to earn money for organizations from the trash we throw away. We are continuing to collect **Box Tops for Education and**



**Campbell's** product label for Hoffman Homes for Youth. These very simple labels or proof of purchase seals help to buy athletic and technology equipment for the school. We have collection containers in the entry way between the sanctuary and the office.

We also collect **cancelled stamps** for use at Homewood at Plum Creek. In the same area you may bring your old batteries for recycling. These may be little things, but they all add up to help the environment.

## Pastor Richard Scott's Retirement Celebration

**Saturday, June 22, 2013**

**6:00 PM**

**St. Mary's United Church of Christ**

**You and your family are cordially invited to Pastor Scott's Retirement Celebration on Saturday, June 22, 2013 at 6:00 PM at St. Mary's.**

**This will be a time for fellowship with Pastor Scott and Molly and everyone will also enjoy a meal together.**

**Please join the party to show Pastor Scott and Molly how much we appreciate their service to us since June of 1996.**

**Mail Form To: St. Mary's U.C.C.  
1441 E. Mayberry Road  
Westminster, MD 21158**

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We will attend \_\_\_\_\_ #attending

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We will not attend \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**I/we would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help provide a meaningful gift for Pastor Scott and Molly.**

## Camping Trip

We are planning to return to Drummer Boy campground in Gettysburg, PA this fall for our church camping trip. Going camping after Labor Day seemed to work well last year, so the tentative date for the camping trip is September 13-15, 2013. A sign-up sheet will be put out soon to see how many campsites we need. More details will follow in the coming months.

## Stewardship Notes



Our role as God's steward is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ. *"...you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* 2 Corinthians 9:7

During 2013 we will highlight the 10 Stewardship Principles.

**3 Sacrifice proportionately** as Christ sacrificed for us. For our sake Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and the resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings.

*"...gave according to their means, and even beyond their means.."*

2 Corinthians 8:3

## Home Visitation

If you know of someone who might benefit from a pastoral visit at home please contact Mary Emma Bowen, RN, Parish Nurse or Betty Gragg, who are working together to make sure everyone is seen as needed.



## Prayer Concerns

There is now a prayer concerns book on the table in the entry hallway. You may place someone on the prayer list by writing in the book. Anytime Mary Emma Bowen, Betty Gragg or the church office receives a prayer request, they will write it in the prayer concern book. People will be listed on the prayer list for 30 days. You may continue to have a person listed by writing their name again in the book, contacting Mary Emma, Betty Gragg, or the church office.

## Go Green for 2013



Help save resources by joining St. Matthew's email list, you'll be notified monthly when the newsletter has been posted in PDF format to our website, and a paper copy will no longer be printed and mailed for your household.

To join for 2013, please send an email to [office@saintmatthewsucc.org](mailto:office@saintmatthewsucc.org) requesting the electronic newsletter or complete the form below and place in the offering plate.

Attention: Church Office

My family wishes to receive the newsletter electronically and not have a paper copy.

Family Name:

---

Email Address:

---

Please check if you would also like to receive the weekly announcements electronically. \_\_\_\_

# Worship Plan for June 2nd - June 30th

**Theme: Micah's BIG Question: "What Does the Lord Require of Me?"**

The **FUTURE** of the church, any church really, but especially churches in transition like St. Matthew's UCC, is always about **VISION**.

Some have discovered that "adopting a simple verse of scripture as a vision statement can be a powerful reality for the church; especially if this verse of scripture is embedded into the mission of the church. Micah 6:8 is one of those powerful verses to seriously consider as the mission of the church, anytime, but especially during a period of transition: *"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"* In "The Message," this verse reads this way: *"But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously."*



This verse suggests some serious spiritual questions we might ask ourselves in these anxious and challenging times are:  
➤ How am I to come before the Lord? ➤ How can I deepen my spiritual life, my spiritual practices? ➤ If I say I am a Christian and a follower of Jesus Christ, what then shall I do? ➤ Indeed, what is expected of me?

In worship during the six Sundays, May 26-June 30, 2013, we will explore how this verse of scripture can be our vision and mission for the future and how we might deepen our spiritual connections to ourselves, to each other and to the community and world.

**Invite a friend and join us for worship June 2 – June 30, 2013**

✠ **June 2, 2013 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (proper 4)**

**Theme: "Micah's BIG Question: 'What Does the Lord Require of Me?' – Walking Humbly" Part 1**

Micah 6:1-8; Deut. 10:12; Ps 80:1-2, 8-19; Luke 9:57-62

Sermon: "Being on the Way"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

✠ **June 9, 2013 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (proper 5)**

**Theme: "Micah's BIG Question: 'What Does the Lord Require of Me?' – Walking Humbly" Part 2**

Micah 6:1-8; Ps. 30; and Luke 10:1-12

Sermon: "The Spiritual Walk: Sometimes, the Journey is the Destination"

✠ **June 16 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (proper 6)**

**Theme: "Micah's BIG Question: 'What Does the Lord Require of Me?' – Doing Justice"**

Micah 6:8; Ps 82; Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sermon: "Doing"

✠ **June 23 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (proper 7)**

**Theme: Micah's BIG Question: "What Does the Lord Require of Me? -- Loving Kindness" Part 1**

Micah 6:1-8; Ps 86; Matthew 5:7, 43-48

Sermon: "Loving" "Immortal Love, Forever Full" #166 (B) Stanzas 1-4);

✠ **June 30, 2013 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (proper 8)**

**Theme: Micah's BIG Question: "What Does the Lord Require of Me? -- Loving Kindness" Part 2**

Micah 6:1-8; Ps. 16; and Matthew 6:1-4


Sermon: "The Vision and the Mission: Love Makes the Church and the World Alive"



Summer Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.

# June 2013

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Upcoming Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost- Green A - Ryleigh Geiman, Taylor Blizzard L - Sharon Chapman G - Pat Desautel, Betty Gragg U - Donna Geiman, Betty Gragg, Susie Gist, Angie Bowersox N - Deanna Geiman, Nichole Green Summer Sunday School Begins	3	4	5	6  Wellness Committee - Noon	7	1  8
9  10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost- Green A - Baleigh Geiman L - Gail Smith G - The Justin Geiman Family U - Mike Smith, Justin Geiman, Mel Starner, Bob Smith N - Vicki Huber-Geiman, Ryleigh Geiman	10	11	12  Bulletin Announcement Deadline 2:00 p.m.	13	14	15
16  11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Green A - Hayden Shaw L - Donna Geiman G- The Dick Smith Family U - Dick Smith, Betty Cree, Marybell Green, Ketti Dutterer N - Linda Fausnet, Hayden Shaw Father's Day	17  Church Council 7:00 p.m.	18	19  Newsletter Deadline - 2:00 p.m.	20  	21	22
23  12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Green A - Kaitlyn Blizzard L - Mike Smith G - Sharon Chapman U - Rose Crebs, Jolene Wagner, Lynn Walter, Deanna Geiman N - Sue Mora, Jenny Mora Church Picnic Following Worship	24	25  56 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Church of Christ	26	27	28	29
30  13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Green A - Nichole Green L - Susie Gist G - Betty Gragg, Pat Desautel U- Carolyn Smith, Donna Geiman, Betty Gragg, Susie Gist N - Cindy Beach, Baleigh Geiman	<u>Birthdays</u> 1 Joy Davis, Christina Beach 2 Zach Rohrback 5 Wilbur Haines  7 Carl Davis 12 Elena Geiman			<u>Anniversaries</u> Justin & Vicki Geiman - June 2, 2001 Travis & Jolene Wagner - June 6, 2009 Cary & Joan Gawel - June 19, 1983 John & Patricia Bankert - June 26, 1971 Donald & Shirley Stair - June 28, 1969		