



the



chimes

Ringin' out the Good News of God and of the Adrian United Methodist Church

From the Pastor... "Transformation"

Therefore, in Christ you are a new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived." 2 Corinthians 5:13

I just read an article a friend shared with me about a big announcement made yesterday about the future of Union Station in St. Louis. Like the Union Station in Kansas City, Union Station in St. Louis was once a major hub of train traffic and commerce. As train travel has become a smaller and smaller industry, Union Station has been re-imagined over the years as a mall, a major hotel, a convention center and an entertainment district. Each of these attempts has had success for a time, but without lasting results. Union Station has special memories for me as I celebrated several significant events there including my high school senior prom, my college graduation and many memorable evenings with friends and family and seeing its decline is disappointing.

The news announced yesterday is that new owners are seeking to breathe new life into this historic location. The ideas announced include a large Ferris-wheel resembling the London Eye, a train-themed hotel with many special acknowledgments of the history of Union Station, a new outdoor space with a fire and light show over the lake, an illuminated tunnel and an "major family entertainment" space that will be announced in the near future.

It remains to be seen if the transformation of Union Station will even happen, let alone bring back life and business to this once major part of the city. But I do know that the announcement already has sparked new energy and excitement about an area that has long been written off as no longer of importance or relevance.

That's what happens when transformation happens, energy, excitement and hope for a new and more productive future comes along side. Think of transformation projects you have been apart of or witnessed—old furniture getting a new finish or purpose brought back to life, an old home getting a new look and a new level of functionality because of some major changes, businesses and areas of town getting "life back in them" as a result of a new direction or focus.

This is transformation! And this is exactly what Christ offers each of us! The above scripture passage states that "in Christ we are a new creation." Christ transforms us! Christ breathes new life, new hope, new promises and a new future into each of us. Christ changes what we were into what we can become. In Christ, we are a new creation.

I encourage you to join me in this new year as we welcome the new creation Christ is making in each of us as we seek to be transformed more and more into his image.

Blessings, Chris

Sunday School News & Notes

We had such a great group on Sunday morning! We love it when we have to find more room for all of the kids to fit!! Thank you to Joey Jacobs for leading our junior high/senior high class this week and thank you to Rhonda Lovejoy for the delicious snacks - donuts and milk are always a favorite! **See you Sunday at 9:45!**

We appreciate all of you who have provided snacks for our Sunday School kids! They look forward to it each week! If you are interested in helping, a new snack sign-up will be at the back of the Sanctuary.

UMW Officers Meeting on Sunday

A UMW meeting for 2015 officers and anyone interested in serving as an officer for 2016 is scheduled for 8:30 am, Sunday, January 17 at Wimfield's. Come enjoy breakfast and a discussion about the upcoming UMW events.



Upcoming Acolytes

January 17: Paige C. & Presleigh S.

January 24: Jaclyn J. & Harper P.

January 31: Jordyn M. & Bo P.

If you cannot be there on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement to take your place.

Souper Bowl Collection

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, we will defend our title as the "most generous congregation in town" as we collect cans of soup and other items for the "Blessings in a Backpack" program. Donations can be brought in any time between now and February 7.



Lord, Hear Our Prayers...

The family of W.K. Jenkins in his passing.

Jeremy Maus	Aaron Pearson	Jay Atchison
Jamie Bise	Eric Sechrest	Max Tindle
Lynn Saathoff	Jonna Petty	Sharon Findley
Harvey Cumpton	Mary Cumpton	Jack Rouborn
Hubert McCall	Jack Willerton	Sandy Maxwell
Barbara Pruden	Gale Eason	Archie Weeks
Beverly Cornelious	Andy Tyhurst	Shirley Smith
Rhonda Walley	Ava Sutton	Wendell Eason
Brent Fletcher	Lu Hooper	Johnny Cates
Olen Gray	Reta Jackson	Sam Weeks
Erin Newport	Oliver Oates	Rhonda Lemer
Rhonda Batschelet	John Morris	Peace...

Remember our military personnel...

Grant Bunch, Dustin Delmont,
Randy Hubbard, Casey Talley, Kaylee Tindle

Worship Wrap Up for January 10, 2016

“Thinking Outside The Box - The Bible”

Some believe that the words of the Bible are all 100% true and correct. This seems to be a box – one that says scripture is exact.

The Bible is the inspired word of God. Each of the writers in scripture was spoken to by God and each story gives a picture of God. In totality we get a broader understanding of God.

We need to know that scripture is not exact, verbatim, but a series of truths. The Bible is an authorized biography. We know that the writers were human beings therefore, there are inaccuracies. The Bible is God’s story and our story covering errors and miracles from the beginning of time.

Each part of the Bible is an account or instructions for certain groups or individuals, all written by individuals. This process forms controversy. Yet, they were written with context appropriate to the situations.

The Bible is communications by God through other people. Every time we read scripture it seems different. The words have not changed. We, as people, have changed each time we read it. All scripture is used for teaching and all we need to know for salvation is written for us.

Please join us on Sunday as we ask God to give us an open mind to hear his words and the strength to follow his instructions.

Submitted by Linda Casey

Upcoming Meetings and Studies

Sunday, Jan 17: Worship at Passaic UMC, 9 am

...Worship at Adrian UMC, 10:45 am

...UMW officers and potential officers meeting,
8:30 am, Wimfield’s

Monday, Jan 18: Adrian Youth Cheer,
5-7:30 pm, FH

Tuesday, Jan 19: Houston Plaza Bible Study,
1 pm, Clubhouse

...Tuesday Table Talk, 6:30 pm

...Girl Scouts, 5:30 pm, FH

Wednesday, Jan 20: Youth, 6-8 pm, FH

Thursday, Jan 21: Passaic Bible Study, 9 am

...Church Ladies, 9-11 am

...Al Anon, 6 pm, Classroom #2

...Fit Club, 7 pm, FH

Saturday, Jan 23: Tai Chi, 8-9 am, FH

...Karate Club, 9-10 am, FH

...Youth Lock-In, 7 pm, FH

Sunday, Jan 24: Worship at Passaic UMC, 9 am

...Worship at Adrian UMC, 10:45 am

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Sunday School . . . Children, 9:45 am Adults, 9:45 am

Worship . . . 10:45 am

EE drool

Lots of times when I pass my elephant ear (EE) in the front room, I get wet. Well, if I brush up against it, that is.

Its huge leaves fork out in my way and next thing I know I’m all wet.

Now this doesn’t occur all the time, but lots of times the elephant ear leaves have little round standup drops of water lining the edges.

My friend Lu said she had the same thing happen with her elephant ear and was wondering what in the world was causing it. I remember her discussing this at garden club one time.

Well since then I have done a little research on it since it is happening to mine too. As far as I can tell, it’s probably transpiration or guttation, if you don’t mind fancy-sounding words.

I guess you could think of transpiration as the plant’s equivalent of sweating. In other words, transpiration is the process by which water is taken into a plant by the roots, transported up through the plant, and released from the leaves as water vapor.

Transpiration is important because it allows water out of the plant and carbon dioxide into the plant for photosynthesis, or so the plant can make food.

Guttation is essentially the same thing as transpiration, as I understand.

And as could be expected, transpiration doesn’t just happen to elephant ears but to other plants and trees as well.

For instance, during growing season, a leaf will transpire many times more water than its own weight. In fact, a large oak tree can transpire 40,000 gallons a year. Now that’s a lot of water.

And putting this on a spiritual level, I hope there’s so much water of life, or Jesus in me, that it spills out also, out of my heart.

I need a life of continual newness—washing out old ways. Yes, a teachable spirit would be just fine this new year.

“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” (John 7:38 NASB)

Love in Jesus,

God’s “transpiration” servant,

Liz Ray

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