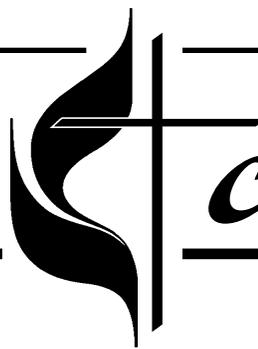




the



chimes

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

From the Pastor... "Joy"

"Your father and I went to the show yesterday."

"Oh, yeah? What did you see?"

"We saw that movie Joy, with Jennifer Lawrence."

"Sara mentioned she'd like to see it. What did you think of it?"

"For a movie titled Joy, it was kind of depressing."

This is an excerpt from a conversation I had with my mother a couple of weeks ago. She was telling me about a movie her and Dad had recently seen and how it didn't quite match her expectations for a movie titled Joy. I get a kick, sometimes, out of the things my mom says.

I've been thinking about the word "Joy" some lately. During the Christmas season we light a candle for Joy and we sing songs with the word "Joy" in them. We are told that life is to be enjoyed. But what does the word "Joy" really mean and what part of our life is supposed to be joyful?

According to dictionary.com, joy means "the emotion of great delight or happiness caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying; keen pleasure; elation." So, the question I have is, when was the last time you did something that brought you joy? I'm not asking about when you did something that made you happy or did something that felt good. When was the last time you experienced joy?

Like I said earlier, I've been thinking about joy a lot lately. I've been accused of not having enough joy in my life at times, at not experiencing joy on a regular enough basis. So this got me thinking about how do I experience joy? One of the ways I experience joy is though doing those activities that are a treat to me, those things that refresh me and allow me to use a different part of my brain than what I do most days. For me, one of these activities is woodworking. Out in my shop (garage), with the sounds of power tools going and the smell of saw dust and wood stain in the air, I experience the joy of creating and doing something to engage the oft neglected creative part of my personality.

The trouble with joy is that often it doesn't come naturally. We have to create time to allow ourselves to experience joy. I don't naturally get out to my shop. I have to say no to other activities that could easily take up my time in order to get out there. Experiencing joy requires that we say no to those areas of life, if even temporarily, that are keeping us from experiencing joy.

So, when was the last time you experienced joy? How do you experience joy in your life and what are the things you need to say no to in order to be able to more frequently experience joy in your life?

Blessings, Chris

Sunday School News & Notes

It's always great to see you at Sunday School and we miss you when you are not there. Hope you will join us this week as we continue our lessons from the book of Genesis about Abraham! Thank you to Sara Snyder for our delicious treats last week! **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 is at the back of the Sanctuary.



Join the Cleaning Fun!

The UMW will do a walk-through of the church at 9:30 am, Saturday, January 23, to identify areas to be cleaned in preparation for the following week's district officers training.

On Sunday, January 24, the UMW invites all church members to help thoroughly clean the church. Come join us following the church service for food, fellowship, and a little cleaning fun!

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.



Acolytes

Upcoming Acolytes

January 24: Jaelyn J. & Harper P.

January 31: Jordyn M. & Bo P.

February 7: Jackson B. & Colton B.

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

Lord, Hear Our Prayers...

Jeremy Maus	Aaron Pearson	Jay Atchison
Jamie Bise	Eric Sechrest	Max Tindle
Lynn Saathoff	Jonna Petty	Sharon Findley
Harvey Cumpton	Mary Cumpton	Jack Rabourn
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 17, 2016 “Creation and Evolution”

Sometimes discussions on creation and evolution become heated. Some believe that they can estimate the age of the earth (approximately six thousand years). Then there is a perspective on the length of the days in the beginning. (Genesis 1: 1-5). Possibly they were not twenty-four hour periods.

Each culture, civilization, and religion has their own theory or story of creation. The point of our Christian story of creation found in Genesis is to teach us about our small place in the universe. It was perfect. We are not meant to understand *how* but definitely *why*. Why God created does not always work in the scientific world. Scientists are driven to answer the question ‘how?’

As human beings, we have evolved through the ages. And we continue evolving as a race. The Bible is a tool to help us to continue to evolve. There are no limitations on the creation and evolution. It will not fit into the scientific box.

Every little detail is not necessary for us to understand. We simply need to understand that in the beginning God created everything, he is with us now and in the end he will still be here.

Please join us on Sunday as we ask God to help us remember that all that is really important in our lives is that he is here forever.

Submitted by Linda Casey

Upcoming Meetings and Studies

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

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

Monday, Jan 25: Adrian Youth Cheer,
5-7:30 pm, FH

Tuesday, Jan 26: Houston Plaza Bible Study,
1 pm, Clubhouse

...Tuesday Table Talk, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, Jan 27: Youth, 6-8 pm, FH

Thursday, Jan 28: Passaic Bible Study, 9 am

...Church Ladies, 9-11 am

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

...Trustees Meeting, 6:30 pm, Classroom #3

...Fit Club, 7 pm, FH

Saturday, Jan 30: Tai Chi, 8-9 am, FH

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

...UMW Officer Training, 9:30 am, FH

...Adrian Community Theater, 4-10 pm, FH

Sunday, Jan 31: Worship at Passaic UMC, 9 am

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

Darkroom days

Back in the 70’s I found out that kitchens can be used for things other than cooking. Yes, they can actually be turned into darkrooms.

Of course, all the windows and doors have to be covered up so no light can get into the makeshift darkroom while the pictures are being printed.

I’m remembering back to the days when I was adviser to the yearbook and the newspaper at Adrian High School and all the pictures were printed in a darkroom.

And yes, for part of those years, the darkroom was in our kitchen when we lived in a house across the alley from the school.

And I can remember one of the students going over to the house to check on a roll of negatives drying and our bulldog Alice jumping up behind him and biting him in the seat.

So there were dangers in the early days of in-home darkroom printing. But dangers or not, the pictures had to be printed. Deadlines had to be met.

However in 1974 we went upscale when a photography darkroom was built at the school down in the basement where the girls old dressing room used to be.

The shower stalls were boarded up and a room was built on this side of them for the darkroom which adjoined the journalism room where students worked on the yearbook and newspaper.

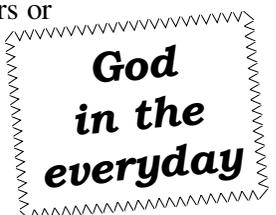
And thanks to the new school darkroom, students working in the dark turned out pictures that in the light helped to make award-winning publications through the years.

And putting this on a spiritual level, none of us have to work in the dark because if we live in the light of God’s love, we can see the steps we are taking to help make this a better world.

So I guess I might say we are working in a lightroom instead of a darkroom developing pictures of beauty as we help others.

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness because you will have the light that leads to life.” (John 8:12 NLT)

Love in Jesus,
God’s “lightroom” servant,
Liz Ray



Fit Club is open to anyone wanting to do some exercise in the week. Join Erin Hooper as she leads Fit Club at 7 pm, Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall.

The Chimes is the official weekly publication of the First United Methodist Church, 202 East Main Street / P.O. Box 126, Adrian, MO 64720.

Deadline: Mondays at noon

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

Worship . . . 10:45 am

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