



FELLOWSHIP

LaFollette United Methodist Church
Vol. 42 Issue 8

808 East Central Avenue, LaFollette, TN 37766
August 1, 2011



MEET THE CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Kenneth L. Faught
Pastor

Pam Olivio
Secretary

Ed Hatfield
Custodian

Karen Hendricks
Music Director

Donna Prater
Music Accompanist

From The Pastor: Are You A Reader?

Many people look forward to “getting a little reading done” during the summer months. There may be books waiting for a trip to the beach or poolside – novels, mysteries, poetry, biographies, or other personal favorites. (Here’s where a faithful pastor is supposed to say, “Don’t forget to read your Bible!” So, “Don’t forget...!”) Do you read books?

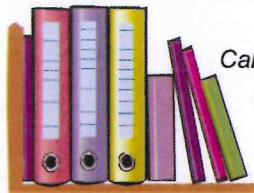
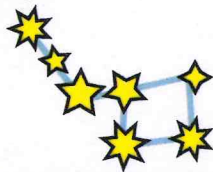
Books are not the only things we read, of course. We read magazines and newspapers and journals. We read church bulletins and e-mails and devotional writings. We read traffic signs and billboards and flyers posted on utility poles. We read labels and assembly instructions and warnings on medicine bottles. We read maps and guidebooks and . . . a hundred other things. It is almost impossible to function in life at a high level without reading. Do you read lots of things?

As a (sometimes) fisherman I have long been interested in “reading water”. Where is the current? Where is the pool? What hangs over the water? What is underneath the water? Where are the light and shadows on the water? What protrudes from the water? What is the temperature of the water? Is the water clear or murky or muddy? Knowing what flows into a pool and what flows through a pool can help us know what to expect to come from the pool. I used to tell my preaching students that knowing what “flows into” a biblical text (history, background, etc.) and what “flows through” a biblical text (setting, situation, characters, words, etc.) enables us to discover what “flows out of” a particular text. We neither fish nor read the Bible in a vacuum! Have you ever tried to “read water”?

I’m in the process learning to read music for classical guitar. It’s complicated and challenging (and sometimes great fun). The strings of a guitar (E-A-D-G-B-E) do not correspond automatically to the musical staff (E-G-B-D-F with F-A-C-E in between)! There are notes repeated all over the guitar fretboard – and they are not in order on the strings. I recently told my guitar teacher that I had ordered a book on reading music for the classical guitar. His response: “That’s good, because reading music for the classical guitar is one of the hardest things to do in music.” (And he is a guitarist, composer, and teacher with a degree in music.) Do you “read music”?

Learning to read nature can enrich our lives. In fact, the natural world has long been regarded (by the Psalmists, Paul, Christian writers, and modern thinkers) as “God’s other book”. He reveals himself to us in and through his creation. Can you find “The Big Dipper” in the night sky? Do you ever notice (or know you are seeing) the planet Venus? Can you identify a tree by its bark/leaf/flower/fruit? Do you know the names of the flowers you see by the roadside? Can you name the seashell you find along the shore? Do you “read nature”?

Another really important reading skill is learning to “read people”? This is one of my concerns about the increasing “virtual” nature of modern relationships. People attempt to “communicate” in cyberspace without the full range of human expression. Typing or texting “bad day here, c u soon” short-circuits the meaningful conversations human persons are designed for and capable of engaging. To listen to words is easy (most of the time). To “read people” requires interpreting the tension in the jaw, the furrow in the brow, the twitch of the lips, the darting of the eyes (or the tear in the corner of the eye), the slouch of the posture, the fidgeting of the hands, the shifting of the feet, and/or the cracking of the voice. (Why do you think poker players wear sunglasses!?) Do you “read people”?



*Call me when you need me. I will come.
~Kenny*



The Secretary is going on vacation...August 2 - 4

Watching the Office
Syondra Cox - Tuesday
Kathy Wilson - Wednesday
Fern Baxter - Thursday



Happy Anniversary!

Jerry and JoAnne Troutman 8/1
Joseph and Pam Olivio 8/3
Gordon and Dona Watson 8/13

CHRISTIAN WOMEN
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10
11:00 A.M.



EVERYONE WELCOME

AREA CHURCH BUILDS RAMPS

By: Susan Sharp

In the hallway of the LaFollette United Methodist Church a bulletin board is covered with announcements. There are notices of meetings and mission work being done throughout the world. However, in the upper right hand corner is a small thank-you card with a sizeable message.

"Without the help of four wonderful guys I would have never had the joy of getting in our backyard," Lynda Barnes penned on the inside of the card.

Her gratitude is for the men who comprise the LUMC Sawing Circle, a mission group created 15 months ago. The men of the Sawing Circle have one goal in mind: to help people get in and out of their homes with as few obstacles as possible. In order to accomplish this, the men have embarked on a series of projects, mostly building wheelchair ramps for those who don't have the means to construct the ramps on their own.

On Tuesday evening, Charles Middleton expressed the same appreciation Barnes did in her note. "To have somebody reach out and help you like that, it just blesses me, buddy," Middleton said. The ramp being constructed at the Middleton's Valley View Estates home is significant for a number of reasons.

Not only is it the 30th project completed by the Sawing Circle, it is the largest ramp they have built to date. When the group first encountered the Middleton's porch they were worried. The front of the porch sits at least 15 feet off the ground and the home sits on a sloped lot. However, the Sawing Circle was committed to help the family.

"Middleton suffers from COPD, continuously wears an oxygen tank, and has heart problems," said Marie Kile, chair of the LUMC Missions Committee. He has extremely limited mobility as a result. Determined to increase Middleton's access to the outdoors, and after a bit of brainstorming, the men had a design ready.

The ramp leaves the right of the porch with a long gang plank that stops at a landing. From there, another long section of the ramp turns back toward the house stopping just short of the wall. It then finishes with an incline to the home's driveway. "I just don't have the words for it," Middleton said of the work being done on his behalf.

"Methodists take a vow of membership to serve Christ and the church with their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. The men and women who participate in the Sawing Circle are one of the best examples I have ever seen of honoring that commitment," said Dr. Kenny Faught, LUMC pastor.

"The Sawing Circle has received grant funding in the last year that has enabled it to build the ramps at no cost to the recipients," said Kile.

It also works closely with Council on Aging as a source of revenue and referrals. While no two projects the group undertakes is the same, they do have a common theme. They are always constructed to meet ADA specifications," Kile said.

"This is not a ministry which grew out of a committee meeting or a pastor's suggestion. It came in response to a real need in our community and it expresses both the heart of the church and the hearts of those who build the ramps," Faught said. "It's nice just to talk to those guys," Middleton said.



MUSIC NOTES



For the first time (actually it is the second time since I discovered a few Sundays ago that Kenny is not a lover of electronic books and I have grown quite fond of reading books on my iPad), I have found myself at odds with our pastor. Now don't get too panicky. It's really quite trivial and the pastor is not even aware of it. It actually has to do with a part of his article in the June newsletter.

I was reading his thoughts on "Godly Qualities...Or Not?" and was thoroughly enjoying the article until I came to the part concerning the temptation to be "all-powerful" and the philosophy that "You can be anything you want to be..." Then I kind of twitched when he referred to this philosophy as "drivel"! (Well, come to think of it, drivel is a wonderful vocabulary word and I think that I will add it to my 5th grade W.O.W Word Wall.) What bothered me is that I am one of those teachers that "dole out this drivel" and do indeed think and encourage children to believe that they can be anything they want to be! I encourage them to go after their dreams; to follow their hearts and to make every effort to reach the goals that they have set for themselves! After all, someone will be the MVP of the National League. Someone will win the Nobel Prize in chemistry. And thank goodness we do have people in positions that are working on solving the world's problems. And hopefully there are those whose dreams are to find a cure for cancer and their dream will come to fruition.

School is getting ready to begin soon and I'm looking forward to meeting a whole new set of 5th graders. And in all probability I will continue to dole out a certain amount of "drivel". I completely agree with Kenny that none of us will ever be "omnipotent" but just maybe some will be "potent". Who knows, maybe one of those "potent" people will be one of my students!

Karen

P.S. Please remember that volunteers are always welcome in our schools. You don't even need any kind of special training! Elementary teachers welcome folks to come in and let a child read to them or for you to share your favorite stories with them. So if you find yourself with a few spare minutes, contact the school system or one of the teachers that attend our church. I can always use you in my classroom!

MEMORIALS

Steve & Scotti Claiborne	Carlock Myers
Steve & Scotti Claiborne	Bob Carden
Steve & Scotti Claiborne	Charlie Cox
Steve & Scotti Claiborne	Bo Brown
Len, Doris Ann Pierce	Rev. Tom Lynch
Grace Stout Goins	Rev. Tom Lynch
Gary & Cindy Carter	Cora Rogers
Bill & Syondra Cox	Cora Rogers
Gordon Early	Cora Rogers
Nellie Myers	Cora Rogers
The Alert SS Class	Cora Rogers
Jerlene Roach-Carney	Cora Rogers
Carol Day-Rhea	Carlock Myers
Sharon & Mike Ridenour	Cora Rogers
Don & Jean Smith	Cora Rogers
Annette Kincaid	Cora Rogers
Christy Claiborne Starr Klevan	Carlock Myers



A program that meets the developmental needs of children ages 6 months to 5 years (currently accepting applications for five days a week). For information call: (423) 201-9350. Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

MISSION NEWS

Holston Home For Children:

United Methodists in the Holston Conference have a unique opportunity on each Fifth Sunday to share in the ministry to children through Holston United Methodist Children's Home in Greenville. You can witness to them by helping to provide for their care in a loving, Christian environment. Please be generous with your Fifth Sunday gift to Holston Home today.

School Supplies:

Vacation days will soon end and school will be starting. Each student needs basic supplies to start the year. This can be a financial hardship for many families. We can help by providing some of the necessary items such as: 3-hole binder, notebook paper, pencils, crayons, and tissues. Donations can be left in the church office.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jim Arnold	8/1
Kenny Bartley	8/2
Sarah Grace Faught	8/3
Sadie Tipton	8/3
Joseph Olivio	8/4
Chris Perry	8/7
Bill Cox	8/11
Grace Goins	8/14
Nicholas Sharp	8/18
Callie Pryse	8/20
Ben Rogers	8/2
Bower Arnold	8/24
Andrew Arnold	8/24
Becky Carr-Kirklin	8/25
Molly King	8/26
Starla Arnold	8/28
Pam Olivio	8/30
Olivia Lobertini	8/31

CHILD CARE CENTER