



THE CENTRAL CONNECTION

MESSAGES & OPPORTUNITIES FROM CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH TO YOU

August 2011

“Silence”

We live in a very noisy world. Words and sounds stream into our homes via television, ipods, computers, and CDs. We hear music in restaurants and stores, elevators and those awful recordings that are played through the phone when we are put “on hold”. Even outdoors, living involves noise: lawn mowers, power tools, motorcycles, cars and trucks. Some noises are cheerful: the sound of children playing in the pool. Some are distressing: the neighbors arguing, again. Some sounds alert us to need: A siren can be a call to prayer, the cry of a baby a signal that it’s time for food and comfort!

In fact, we can become so used to noise that silence feels strange and uncomfortable. We want to fill up the silence with music, or conversation, or some distraction. However, in order to “hear” God speak, we need regular times of silence. The silence of solitary prayer cultivates in us the ability to listen for God.

In one sense, this kind of prayer is difficult: we feel distracted, we remember things that need doing, and our minds are restless. But if we desire the presence of God in our lives, we need times of silence and rest in prayer. In this interior quiet, we can listen for and finally hear God’s voice amidst all of the other voices clamoring for our attention. In silent prayer and listening, we can begin to let go of ourselves and find God.

We all need to create space in our busy world for silence and to spend time in a place

where the world will not overwhelm us. Daniel Wolpert writes in his book *Creating a Life with God*, “When we go to sit in silence, when we turn our minds to our Creator, we begin the process of allowing God to be the center of our world. Usually we occupy that central position. We control the pace and tempo of our lives; we set the agenda; we decide what happens when. The practice of solitude turns this order of things upside down. Suddenly nothing is before us but empty space and time—no list of activities and chores, nothing important on our agenda. We place ourselves at God’s disposal and we don’t know when, or even if, our Creator will appear. This is unnerving.”

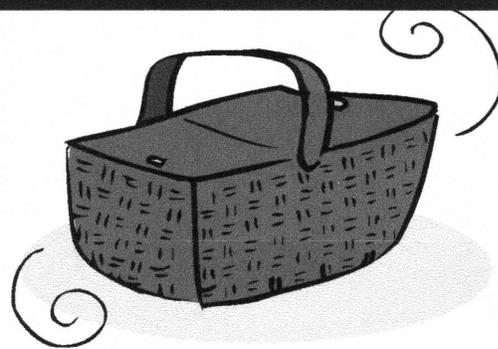
The work of silence is the work of gently saying “no” to the endless stream of thoughts and feelings that make up our world in order to listen for and say “yes” to the thoughts and feelings that are the voice of God. It takes practice to slowly begin to hear God over the chattering of our own internal dialogue.

Allow silent moments during your day. Driving without the radio on or a CD playing can be a time to attend not only to your driving, but also to God. Develop a prayer center in your home, a place where you can spend time alone with God, with no distractions. Try spending 10 to 30 minutes in silence each day. Enter into times of silence in worship as we listen to God together.

In Christ, Pastor Stephanie

“Be still and know that I am God”
Psalms 46:10a

Annual Church Picnic



Save The Date

Saturday, September 10

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Place: Gypsy Hill Park

Enjoy good food, fun and fellowship. Games for Children
and free train rides. Details will be announced.



Structurally Separate, Missionally Connected

By: Luz de Tablan



“The new plan will strengthen the United Methodist Women’s identification with their work and witness in the church and the world and will give clearer ways to show what the organization is accomplishing in the world”.

Last year in April 2010, the Women’s Division board of directors met at Stamford, Connecticut and voted to become structurally separate from the Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) of the United Methodist Church. They continue to be connected in staff and by its board of directors. The proposal to be structurally separate but connected in missions to Global Ministries was based on the recommendations from the board’s policy committee of the Women’s Division and was received and approved strongly by the General Board of Global Ministries.

This plan would change how the Women’s Division and GBGM relate to each other. Harriet Jane Olson, deputy general secretary of the Women’s Division, said five directors through the Women’s Division nominating committee would be named to the proposed 30-member GBGM board. This will release more seats at the General Board of Global Ministries and make it possible for the GBGM to have more representation from Central Conferences, especially for women from the Central Conferences.

The Women’s Division will not be represented on the GBGM’s program cabinet on a regular basis; however there was a recommendation that the chief executive be represented at the general secretaries’ table. This body composed of top executives from the thirteen agencies of the United Methodist Church Women’s Division, will continue to purchase some shared services from the General Board of Global Ministries, keeping staff structures separate. Thomas Kemper, general secretary of GBGM said that the new relationship would strengthen the mission of the global Church, because the United Methodist Women have been a vital part of the mission connection between GBGM and the Women’s Division.

United Methodist Women play a major role in mission’s education within the church and keeps the United Methodist connection alert to the needs of justice and equality in both the church and in society.

The number of directors at the new Women’s Division board would be reduced by fifty percent. They will be nominated by a special committee to ensure diversity of age, race, language and working status. They also voted to elect a larger United Methodist Women “Program Advisory Board”. This advisory board of directors will be composed of 70-80 members which would include an elected board of members, jurisdiction presidents, a representative from each United Methodist Women conference not yet

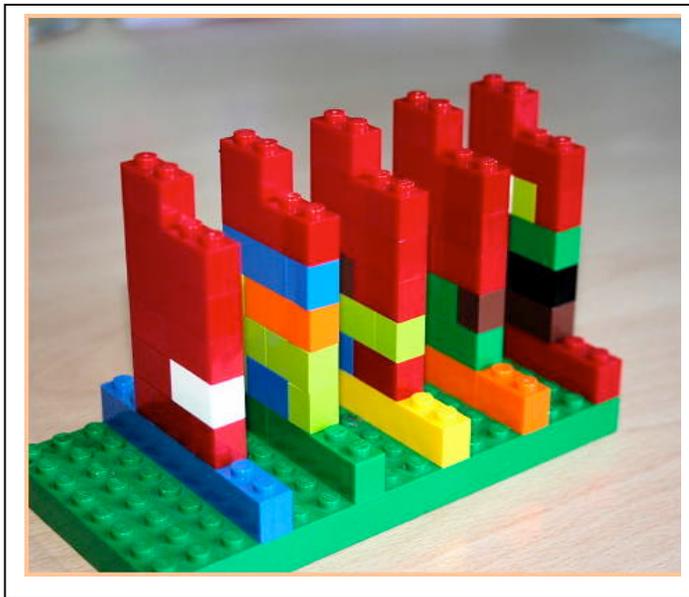
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represented, GBGM directors, directors from other United Methodist agencies, members based on applications to account for diversity, members from the deaconess and home missionary community and representation from global Methodist women organizations, and regional missionaries. Inelda Gonzalez, the president of the Women's Division said that the steps taken to be structurally separate but connected in mission will open the door for more women to be able to participate in the programming of the United Methodist Women.

The board also approved changes in the constitutions of local, district, conference and jurisdictional organizations of the United Methodist Women, in order to offer members more flexibility to shape the organization as they see fit. The "unit" will be called the local organization of the United Methodist Women and reduce the number of officers, naming only the president, secretary and treasurer. The functions can be handled as determined by the group to encourage officer teams to develop more organic, mission-focused organizations. They also voted to drop the Women's Division and just call the whole organization, *United Methodist Women* and focus more on praying, serving and advocating members.

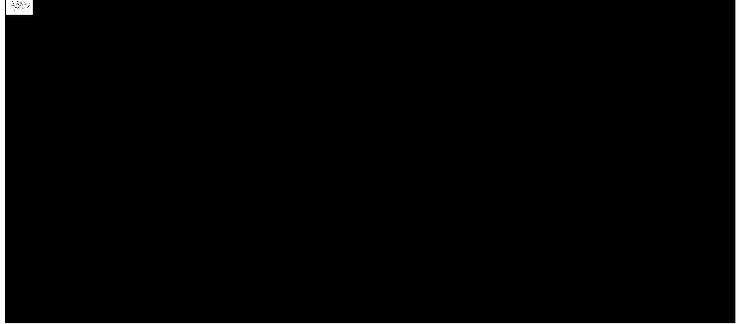
These proposed changes will be brought to the General Conference in 2012 to be implemented in January 2013. Mrs. Olson said that the new plan will strengthen the United Methodist Women's identification with their work and witness in the church and the world and will give clearer ways to show what the organization is accomplishing in the world.

Junior First Lego League



This group meets every Friday morning at 10 am in Eagon Hall. Boys and girls, ages 6-9 are given a challenge; this year's challenge is called **SNACK ATTACK!!**

They will do research as a team on a topic, present their findings, and build a Lego Machine to illustrate.



August Birthdays

- 1 Robert Clem
- 2 Katherine Harmon
- 2 Beth Huffer
- 3 Stuart Cobb
- 4 Hunter Mabry
- 4 Brooke Shumaker
- 7 Robert Markley
- 9 Molly Snyder
- 12 Chris Berry
- 12 Debbie Foster
- 12 Laura Beth Garner
- 12 Lois Marshall
- 13 Audrey Bocoock
- 16 Betty Jo Obaugh
- 16 Tammy Grant
- 16 Ann Spotts
- 17 Tom Creger
- 18 Harper Stumb
- 19 Eve Beals
- 21 Jeff Kent
- 27 James Creger II
- 29 Ruth Hall

May God Bless Your Special Day with Joy and Love!!!

*Please contact the church office if your name is not on the list and should be (or vice versa) so that we may correct our records.

SINGLE MINGLE

Sunday, August 14 Lunch following Worship (Little Maria's Italian Restaurant)

All single adults are invited to join the group for a delicious meal and some great conversation, with a few laughs thrown in!
Please invite a friend to join you for
Worship and Lunch!

A prayer

**The risen living Christ
Calls you by name.
Comes to the loneliness in you
Heals that which is wounded in you.
Comforts that which grieves in you.
Seeks for that which is lost within you
Releases you from that which has dominion over you
Cleanses you from that which does not belong to you
Renews that which feels drained within you
Awakens that which is asleep in you
Names that which is formless in you
Empowers that which is newborn within you
Consecrates and guides that which is strong within you.
Restores you to this world which needs you
Reaches out in endless love to others through you.**

LECTIONARY READINGS



Genesis 37:1-4
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (UMH 828)
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 14

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133 (UMH 850)
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

August 21

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124 (UMH 846)
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

August 28

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c (UMH 828)
Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:31-28



Noon Lunch Program @ Trinity Episcopal

- During the 21 days in May, Trinity Episcopal Church served 658 meals to 123 guests while 105 volunteers worked 450 hours.
- During the 21 days of June they saw their numbers increase with 827 meals enjoyed by 152 guests, while 132 volunteers donated over 473 hours to the program.

Food Pantry
Food Pantry

Food Pantry for June

Families Served 106
Individuals Served 249
Children Served 79

Pray - Give - Send

“Be Hope”

FOR STORM SURVIVORS

- **Pray for the survivors** to rebuild lives and homes in the wake of the storms
- **Pray for pastors and local disaster responders, Volunteers in Mission and others** who continue to help with emergency relief and will be on hand for the long-term recovery.
- **Give to UMCOR Advance # 3021326- U.S. Spring Storms:** 100 percent of your gift will assist with rebuilding homes and lives, training conference volunteers and long term recovery, including spiritual and emotional issues. Give by credit card at www.umcor.org, by calling (800) 554-8583 or by check, giving through your local church or mailing it to Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068
- **Join or form a Volunteers-in-Mission team** to help with rebuilding. Contact your conference or jurisdictional Volunteers-in Mission coordinator (www.gbgm-umc.org, click on “Get Connected” and “Volunteer Opportunities” Scroll down to UMVIM Mission Teams)
- **Send cleaning buckets** to any of the depots in the UMCOR relief-supply network. Find details at new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies. Cleaning buckets will also be needed through the summer and fall hurricane season.
- **Subscribe** to the UMCOR Hotline (new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/newsroom/hotline).
- **Read regular reports** from United Methodist News Service (www.umns.umc.org) and UMCOR (www.umcor.org)



Our Pre-School, “Child’s Play”, begins on September 13. Please let your family and friends know we are still accepting children as our current enrollment is less than the number needed for a good experience for our 18 to 34 month old toddlers.

We are also looking for teachers, one regular teacher for the school year, and others who would substitute when one of us has to be away or if enrollment increases. If you or someone you know is interested please let me know.

Thanks,
JoAnn Black
540-886-1272

Space Mission to Mars Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School
August 1-3

9-11 a.m. - For Ages 3-8

This Year’s Theme:

**Space Mission to Mars,
Meet the Risen Savior**

Call the Church Office to Register



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**August
 2011**



Return Service Requested



The Mission of Central UMC is to make disciples of Jesus Christ

<p><i>The Central Connection</i> is the monthly newsletter of Central United Methodist Church Located on the corners of Lewis & Beverley Streets in Staunton, Va. Mailing address: P.O. Box 953 Staunton, Va. 24402 Telephone :(540) 886-3441 Fax- (540) 886-5771 Email: centralumc@centralumcstaunton.org www.centralumcstaunton.org <i>The Central Connection</i> Editor: Dana Wade</p>	<p>IN MINISTRY</p> <p>Pastor.....Stephanie M. Sault Minister of Music/Organist.....Sherry von Oeyen Church Secretary.....Dana F. Wade Child's Play Director.....Jo Ann B. Black Custodian.....Janet Nuckoles Retired Missionary Professor.....Hunter P. Mabry Retired Pastor.....David D. Reed Professor MBC.....Kenneth A. Beals District Superintendent.....D. Michael Houff Resident Bishop.....Charlene Payne Kammerer</p>
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Amazing Animals

Animals are amazing. Can you match each animal with its amazing feat?

1. Only bird that can fly backward.
2. Eyes do not move.
3. Life span of over 150 years.
4. Has a gland that waterproofs its feathers.
5. Only poisonous mammal in the world.
6. Can be over 33 feet long.
7. May produce, use, and shed 24,000 teeth in ten years.
8. Can travel more than 700 miles in one day.
9. Can reach speeds of 23 miles per hour.
10. Knocks on wood to get food and communicate.



Tiger shark



Roadrunner



Owl



Woodpecker



Hummingbird



Duckbill platypus



Giant tortoise



Seagull



Duck



Crocodile

Answers

1. Hummingbird, 2. Owl, 3. Giant Tortoise, 4. Duck, 5. Duckbill platypus, 6. Crocodile, 7. Tiger shark, 8. Seagull, 9. Roadrunner, 10. Woodpecker

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I A A N D B L I V I N G K W C
 T N X E V E R Y S C L X I I D
 D W G N I P E E R C A H N L E
 N V E E V E R Y J K D T D D T
 A O E H K U M D I O F R T U V
 P Z S U T H I N G S T A F L U
 A F D A N I M A L S S E R S E
 B O E P I H R S G Q H R V F O
 O R F O Q D T N Q T E L E D W
 C T M N N M B R I N G Y H N A
 J H T R A E L Z D N I K T A S

Word Find

Find and circle the Bible verse Genesis 1:24 in the word find puzzle: "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind."



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EDITOR'S CLIP SHEETS is published quarterly by Logos Productions Inc., 6160 Carmen Ave. E., Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076-4422, 1-800-328-0200, under license from MediaCom Associates Inc., Adelaide, Australia. Annual subscription \$31.95 printed format, \$49.95 3 1/2-inch or 5 1/4-inch disk format. Material may be reproduced only in subscriber's local church publications. No portion may be reproduced in any form for resale or redistribution. Author Sue Pearson is a free-lance writer of Christian Education curriculum. Canadian orders are available at an annual subscription rate of \$34.24 (including GST), from Wood Lake Books, 9025 Jim Bailey Rd., Kelowna, BC V4V 1R2, 250-766-2778 or 1-800-663-2775.

UMVIM TRIP TO PULASKI

Their Needs Our Mission

The week of July 18th, when temperatures rose to triple digits, six members of Central decided it was better to be outside helping others, than to be inside enjoying air conditioning. Susan Black, Diony de Tablan, Vince Ennis, Lowell Moore, and Jim and Vicki Printy travelled to Pulaski, VA to work on homes that were damaged by tornadoes in April. More than fifty homes in the Pulaski area were damaged by the tornadoes, some beyond repair. The community, like all those who suffer severe devastation, has received an outpouring of support, with donations of time, money and resources. It is estimated that in the initial weeks thousands of individuals volunteered. The Volunteer Resource Center in Pulaski now estimates they are hosting up to 100 volunteers per week.

While in Pulaski, the team worked on two homes, both of which had been severely damaged. At the Brown home we sanded and finished drywall, and painted primer, in addition to cleaning up the work site. Insulation and drywall was hung at the home of the Beavers family. Although the work itself was rewarding, the highlight of the trip was being able to meet and have fellowship with the families who lived in the houses. They were so appreciative of our efforts. In fact, everyone we met, waitresses, store clerks, gas station attendants, said, "Thanks for coming, thanks for what you're doing, thanks for remembering us".

We met some wonderful people, and made some new friends, including our hosts at First UM Church. It is a beautiful, large, older church in downtown Pulaski, with many similarities to Central. We ate two meals a day there, slept on the floor of two Sunday School rooms, and soaked up a lot of air conditioning.

Although the team was glad to return home to recuperate, we are anxious to return to Pulaski. We anticipate a follow up trip this fall (when temperatures are cooler). We welcome volunteers, and would love to return with a group of twenty. Please be assured there is work available for anyone, and you will be richly blessed for your work.

- Jim Printy

Music Not

GOD CALLS US AND WILL BE WITH US TILL WE MEET AGAIN.

Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) was an editor of Bach's organ works, an eminent organist, as well as a theologian, physician, minister to the lepers of equatorial Africa and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952.

Before he went to Africa, Schweitzer organized a series of Bach concerts in Strasbourg, in 1896 and in Paris in 1906. One day, while having lunch with his teacher, Charles Marie Widor, (organist and composer), he announced that he was going to Gabon (in Africa) to build a hospital. The old organist pleaded with him to give up the idea, to consider the disruptive effect it would have on his Bach researches but to no avail. 'What can you do,' sighed Widor afterwards, 'when a man says to you, "God calls me"?' What do we do when God's call means we have to say good-by?

According to the etymology of the word, good-by, you will learn that it is a condensation of the words "God be with ye."

Dr. J.E. Rankin, former pastor of the First Congregational Church in Washington, wanted a song for Christians to sing as they departed from each other. He thought about the term good-by and its origin, and wrote this poem:

*God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again.*

Rankin sent the first verse of the poem to an obscure choir director who composed the melody that fit the verse quite well. Most churches today know and sing this hymn.

The author of this article was a student in Chattanooga, Tennessee who often helped "send off" missionary volunteers who had graduated and were heeding God's call. Lindsay Terry noticed the mixed emotions of the volunteers getting on the train as the conductor called, "B-o-o-o-a-r-d". Leaving friends, family and home seemed to fade into insignificance as one particular volunteer remembered the joys that come from obeying God. As the train drove out of sight, Lindsay could hear above the click of the wheels the words of the hymn that Rankin had written many years before- "God be with you till we meet again...."

God calls us to be his disciples in this world in so many ways; some at home and others far away. Pray that you will joyfully receive that call. Also be comforted knowing that God is always with us and with our family and friends when we are apart.

taken from The Book of Musical Anecdotes
by Norman Lebrecht
and Devotionals from Famous Hymn Stories
by Lindsay L. Terry

The page is decorated with several musical notes scattered around the text. The notes are orange with black outlines and are placed at various angles and positions, some overlapping the text.

Summer Sounds Concert Series August 19-27

- **Aug. 21- Music-Story Project**, 3:00 pm- Free Admission; Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms & Bartok. This Contest is for school-aged children to write short stories or poems inspired by select piano pieces. Prize-winning entries will be read aloud during the concert.
- **Aug. 22- Water Music**, 7:30 pm- * \$20, \$18, \$8 Admission; works by Telemann, Schubert, Crumb, Josquin, Ravel and Vivaldi; Pre-Concert Talk 6:30 pm
- **Aug. 23- Piano Extravaganza**, 12:00 pm- Free Admission; Works for piano, from one to eight hands, by Saint-Saens, Yannelli, Haney, J. Strauss, and Rachmaninoff; **Young Artist Master Classes, 2-4 pm**- Free Admission; **Happy New Ear**, 7:30 pm- Free Admission, *Concert and conversation about new music, with Chester Biscardi, Stephen Siegel, Vera Ivanova, and Zachary Wadsworth*
- **Aug. 24- Serenades at Noon**, Free Admission; Works by Schubert, Debussy, Biber, Britten & R. Strauss
- **Aug. 25- Czech Letters**, 7:30 pm * \$ 20, \$18, \$8 Admission; Bass Quintet in G, Trio Sonata in g, for two oboes, bassoon, and continuo; Suite for oboe and piano, and *The Moldau* (arranged for chamber orchestra); Pre-Concert Talk, 6:30 pm.
- **Aug. 26- Emerging Composers-** 12:00 pm- Free Admission; Works by 2011 SMF Emerging Composers, Vera Ivanova and Zachary Wadsworth
- **Aug. 27- Bohemian Treasures-** 12:00 pm- Free Admission; Works by Janáček, Martinů and Dvořák.