



Cross Beams

News from Cedarville U.M. Church
"Changing Lives with Jesus"

January, 2017

WHY?

Here at Cedarville UMC, we begin this new year with a fresh, new vision statement to guide our path. Lately, I've been hearing a lot about the importance of asking, and focusing upon, the question "Why?" Why are you in business? Why do you do what you do? The answer to these questions provides the foundation for, and guides, everything that gets done in any organization.

So, "Why?" Why do we exist as a church?

Because *God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life* (John 3:16). That's our answer to the "why?" question. Because God loves the world and will go to any length (has gone to great length) to reconcile us back to God's self.

When people are loved, truly loved, unconditionally loved (as unconditionally as we human beings are capable of) it helps people to sense that maybe, just maybe, 'God could love me.' When people come to some understanding and experience of God's unconditional love and grace for them, their lives are changed. And, THAT is our mission here at Cedarville UMC – to **Change Lives With Jesus**.

Now, the truth of the matter is that we don't actually change lives. We allow God to use us and to work through us, touching people with the Holy Spirit's power. That power changes all of us from the inside out. When hearts are opened to Christ, lives begin to change.

As the Church, we are called to share the good news of God's life-changing, unconditional love for us. And, we are called by Jesus to: *go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you* (Jesus in Matthew 28:19), which leads to a relationship with God.

I hear a lot of talk, and lament, about the decline of the Church over the last few decades. I came across an interesting quote that made me think about the matter. "**The problem is not that the church is declining; the problem is that the church is not fulfilling its calling.**"

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Pastor's Message - Continued

Folks, let us fulfill our calling to Change Lives With Jesus. How that happens and what that looks like is encompassed in our new vision statement.

Our vision is to make Cedarville UMC a place where people want to come, stay to grow, and go out to share God's love with others.

I look forward to our ministry together in 2017 as we invite others to join us in the journey to

Come, Grow, Share!

Pastor Sherry



Confirmation Sessions 2017

All 8th and 9th graders, along with parents or guardians, are invited to a Confirmation Orientation gathering on Sunday, January 15th at 1:00 p.m. in the youth room. Come and learn about the confirmation process and bring your questions.

At this point, I plan to hold confirmation sessions on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 p.m. However, this timeframe is not set in stone. Classes will be held February-May, leading up to Confirmation Sunday, when all who have

completed the process and choose to join the church, will be confirmed.

Please contact the church office (susan@cedarvilleumc.org or 610-326-4173) to register your attendance at the Orientation session on January 15.

Mark your calendars or save the date in your phone now for Sunday afternoon, January 15, 2017 from 1:00-2:00. I look forward to an exciting journey of exploring faith and life questions with you through the confirmation process!



January 1, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Youth are hosting this dinner as a fund raiser for the Youth Mission Trip in June. The cost is \$9.00 per adult, \$4.50 per child and \$3.00 for child's hot dog meal. Tickets available prior to the dinner from Kris Roberts, John McCormick or Susan Morris in the church office. Tickets will also be available after each Sunday service during the month of December and at the door.



Cedarville Nights January Menus

Jan 4: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Corn, Salad, Rolls and Dessert

Jan. 11: Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable Medley, Salad, Rolls & Dessert

Jan. 18: Breakfast – French Toast Casserole, Hashbrown Casserole, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fruit Salad, Bagels & Cream Cheese, Juice.

Jan. 25: Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Peas, Salad, C-Ville Cookies.

Nifty-Fifty+

The Nifty-Fifty+ Group will hold its first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 12 at 12:00 noon. Bring a sandwich – dessert and beverage will be provided. We will have "Game Day" that day – weather permitting.



Missions and Outreach

Marie Heimbach Memorial Mitten Project

Thanks to everyone who provided outfits for needy children in the Owen J. Roberts School District!

Opportunity to Continue Serving the Community at the North Coventry Food Pantry

On our day of service, Oct. 16, I was part of a group who went to help at the North Coventry Food Pantry. We packed bags and boxes of food for participating families. The task was organized in an efficient assembly line, and it only took us about an hour to complete the work. It was rewarding and fun! I told the director (in faith!) that I was sure I could get 10-12 volunteers from Cedarville every month to do this job. If I can compile a list of volunteers, it might only mean a commitment of 3 or 4 times a year for individuals. Our first assignment is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31st at 6:30 PM. If you are interested in being part of this team, please call (610-327-8508) or e-mail me (sgparavis@aol.com). Please join me in this endeavor. We can "Be the Church" in our community.

Sue Paravis

Cluster Items of the Month – January



Peanut Butter



Soup



Children and Youth



Cedarville Nursery School

This past month was a very busy time! The children chased the gingerbread baby around the entire building but he gave us the slip. He did, however, leave us a treat. He left us gingerbread cookies to enjoy. He was so kind and generous we talked about giving and how we can give of ourselves through service. We discussed ways we could help at home and how we can share with our friends at school.

The children learned about the Christmas story. We discussed that Christmas is Jesus' birthday and that angels spread the word of his birth. We made a beautiful angel with Psalm 19:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God".

We also had fun with two elves, Jingle and Jangle, They were watching if we were naughty or nice. Each day they would hide in a new spot in our classroom. The students loved finding them each day and they were

frequently doing something silly. We were relieved to find out everyone was on the "good" list.

All the classes put on a Christmas show for their families. We dressed as reindeer and our parents thought we were amazing!!!

Melanie and I did another babysitting night and gave the proceeds to the Salvation Army. The next one will be for Valentine's Day and we are thinking *Doctors Without Borders* would be the next charity we would donate to.

In the New Year, let's pray for a struggling world. Saint Padre Pio said to the people, "The Lord is a Father, the most tender and best of Fathers. He cannot fail to be moved when his children appeal to Him." He hears us and these children deserve a peaceful stable world, so let's all pray for one!!!

Have a blessed, peaceful new year!!!!

Cedarville Youth

Ocean City Youth Rally January 6-January 8

A few of our youth group will be spending the weekend in Ocean City, Maryland at the Annual Youth Rally The theme is: "This Is Love" from 1 John 4:10. The Rally will feature motivational speaker, Steve Fitzhugh, a "champion for youth", along with Rend Collective, Zealand Worship Band, Dave & Brian, and a full concert by gospel singer Tasha Cobbs.

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Cedarville Youth - Continued

There will be no regular scheduled Sunday School or evening Youth Group the weekend of the Youth Rally.



Card Making

Join us for card making on Sunday afternoon, February 26 at 12:00. All supplies have been donated; all you need to do is come! We'll make cards for all occasions to send to shut-ins and military. Any one in attendance may also purchase cards for personal use, money received will be placed in the offering. Snacks will be available for sharing. Join us in Fellowship Hall for a fun afternoon.



**Supply of the Month:
Hot Cocoa Packets
Place in Bins at the
back of Fellowship Hall**



Dear Cedarville Church Family!

We pray that each of you has experienced the grace and peace of the good news announced to those shepherds so long ago and the good news that Jesus came to bring to us. As we continue to walk together as messengers of this good news, may we keep our eyes on Jesus in this New Year and always.

Thank you for your many cards, well wishes, and expressions of love during this sacred season and throughout the year. Gordy and I continue to feel so very blessed to serve with and among you.

Grace and peace-

Pastor Sherry and Gordy

Thanks for all the cards, prayers, visits, and flowers I received while hospitalized and in rehab the last few months. It was a very trying time, but the caring concern from all my Cedarville friends while transitioning to our new home has meant a lot to me.

Evelyn Augustine

Dear Cedarville United Methodist Church,

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your donations for our needy families at North Coventry Elementary School.

Your donation made the holidays a little brighter for our students and their families. We could not do what we do without the support of our staff, families and community.

Thank you once again for your kindness and generosity.

Warm wishes for a wonderful holiday!

*Suzanne Grashof
School Counselor
N. Coventry School*

*Dear Women's Fellowship,
Thank you for the beautiful sparkly poinsettia! I have enjoyed it on my coffee table through the Christmas Season. Thanks for thinking of me!*

Susan Morris

*Dear Cedarville Church,
Thank you for hosting the group in Pottstown on December 11 and allowing us to share our program, "Christmas Joy!" with your congregation and community.*

This year, Re-Creation marks more than 40 years of service to the men and women receiving long-term care in the VA Health Care system. Your generous contributions through the

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church offering will help to further that personal mission to America's heroes!

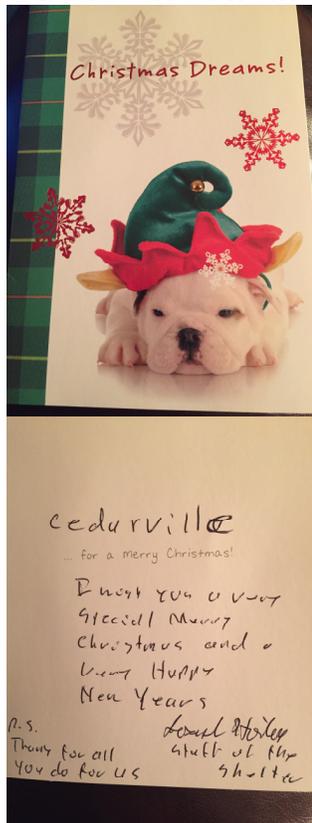
We enjoyed visiting with you and thank everyone involved for their efforts in the arrangements for the program and meal. Everyone was so welcoming and gracious.

We know this program would not be possible without YOU! And we look forward to seeing you again soon!

If there's anything I can ever do for you or your fellow members, please let me know.

In Him,
Jay Muller, Director
Re-Creation USA

Card received from Shelter



(See Next Column)

The writing on the card says,
"Cedarville – I wish you a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year."

Staff of the Shelter

P.S. Thank you for all you do.

A Devotional by Walter Mouse

**Romans 5:5...God has
poured out his love into our
hearts by the Holy Spirit...**

The King James Version of this scripture says, "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts..." What a wonderful image! It reminds me of visiting Tuck, Bill's brother. He has three cats, which all shed like mad. When we go there, we know we're going to get covered with cat hair. You can't get away from it. God's love really **is** like that. It sheds all over the place, too. You can't get away from **it**, either! How wonderful!



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Read other devotions at
WalterMouse.com

For inclement weather cancellations

Please check our website (www.cedarvilleumc.org), Facebook page, or Twitter feed. If you would like to be added to our email or phone call

notification lists, please contact Susan in the church office, susan@cedarvilleumc.org, 610-326-4173, and give her your email and/or phone contact info.



If you're looking for a hands-on small group, you might want to try the Knitting Circle. Its official name is "Chicks with Sticks...and a Rooster." That's because we have a man in the group. Most of us knit, but we have one woman who crochets, and we've had others who did various other forms of handwork (cross stitch, needlepoint, car kit assembly, and embroidery). We meet every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Folks come late, leave early, stay the full time...whatever works for their schedule. If you can't knit, but would like to learn, we'll be happy to teach you! If you have any questions, contact Pam Frame at pam@cedarvilleumc.org.





January Worship Leaders

8:00 Worship Service

One Service at 10:00
8 – Jerry Poole
15 – Larry Frame
22 – Dave/Jo-Ann Hohl
29 – Pam Frame

11:00 Worship Service

One Service at 10:00
8 – Pam Frame, Amber Buchanan, Scripture
15 – Elaine Lambert, Joan Colledge, Scripture
22 – Gene Hohl, Barbara Boyer, Scripture
29 – Frank Cebular, Patti McClimon, Scripture

9:30 Scripture Readers

One Service at 10:00
8 – Sandie Armstrong
15 – Marilyn Knight
22 – Jen Fernandez
29 – Cindy Cebular

December Ushers

8:00 Traditional

Bonnie Bolger

9:30 Contemporary

TBA

11:00 Traditional

Gordy Lantz – Head Usher
1 & 8 – Denny & Patti McClimon, Sheila Hardin & Gordy Lantz
15, 22 & 29 – Denny & Patti McClimon, Sheila Hardin, & Emilie Atkinson

January Flowers

1 – Donor Needed
8 – Sue Paravis
15 – Donor Needed
22 – Dale & Joan Colledge
29 – Deb Kauffman

CedarKidz Teachers

8 – Crissy Fiorani
15 – Elaine Armstrong
22 – Diane Cherico
29 – Sandie Armstrong

KidzWorship Teachers

8 - Diane Cherico
15 – Patti McClimon
22 – Kim Geller
29 – Sue Paravis

9:30 Nursery

8 – Melissa Burg
15 – Cindy Cebular
22 – Linda Waclawsky
29 – Amy Murphy

11:00 Nursery

8 – Sandie Armstrong
15 – Joanne Means
22 – Danelle Kline
29 – Julie Laum

**January 1 Nursery: One Service only at 10:00
Diane Cherico**



Pastor:
Rev. Sherry Lantz
sherry@cedarvilleumc.org
Church Office: 610-326-4173
Office Administrator:
Susan Morris
susan@cedarvilleumc.org
Nursery Coordinator 9:30 –
Joyce Thiessen
Sexton: Steve Krasley
Youth Leader:
John McCormick
Website & Social Media:
Lori McCormick
Web Page:
www.cedarvilleumc.org
Music Staff:
Chris Vogel, Organist & Director of Contemporary Worship
chris@cedarvilleumc.org
Kathy Ballein, Choir Director
Lori Snavelly, Handbell Director
Bradley Shupinski, AV Coordinator
Servant Staff:
Treasurer: Randy Beidler
Assistant Treasurer: Jay Meloy
Pianist: Jean Arbogast
Shephelah Coordinator: John Waclawsky
Photographer: Brent Miller
Prayer List Coordinator: Sheila Hardin,
TUCKERSFAMILY@aol.com
Prayer Chain Coordinator: Elaine Lambert
CatchAcat2@aol.com
Pet Prayer Chain: Pam Frame
pawprints@cedarvilleumc.org
Altar Flower Coordinator: Pam@cedarvilleumc.org