

THE MESSENGER




August, 2011

"For all to know and share the Love of Christ"

The Newsletter of First United Methodist Church Surgoinsville, TN
Paul Seay, Pastor

Church: 345-2279



In July we spent some time with the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans. Romans is Paul's longest letter and probably his most important. Romans is also Paul's most difficult letter. After reading straight through Romans, if you feel like you have understood it, then you can be sure that, in fact, you have not understood it. If, however, you feel a little dizzy or confused after attempting to read Romans, then you are right where you should be. You are in good company. Romans has been both inspiring and baffling Christians for 2,000 years.

The scholar N.T. Wright has said of Shakespeare's Hamlet that it is full of quotations. That is, lots of people know some lines from Hamlet but fewer know much about how those pieces fit into the whole. I find that the same is true with Romans. Lots of us are familiar with the famous quotes. Here are just a few:

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel; it is the power of God for salvation..." (Romans 1:16)

"Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are justified by his grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:23-24)

"For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly...God proves his love for us in that while we were sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:6 & 8)

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

"Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword...No, in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35-39)


The difficulty comes in trying to put the pieces of the puzzle together. Context matters greatly in our reading of the Bible. The Bible is not a collection of free-floating quotable quotes. The Bible is gem mine, but the gems are still embedded in the earth.

On July 3 we read Romans 7:14-25, Paul's well-known statement on the power of sin. Sin, Paul says, is an enslaving power, one that we learn to serve willingly. Sin is more than doing bad things. Sin is a power at work that pulls us away from God. Paul paints a dismal picture in these verses. If these were the last words on sin in Romans (or in the Bible for that matter), what a sad ending that would be!

Thankfully we are not helpless in the face of sin and death, doomed to be only slaves of sin destined for death. The message of Romans 8, which we read on July 10 and 17, is like water in the desert. God has intervened to set us free from sin through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and God has sent the Holy Spirit to guide us as we live into God's new creation. We need to be forgiven of sin, and we talk a lot about this in church. But what we don't talk about as much is the freedom and power for new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

We have been set free from the Egypt of sin and death, and God's Spirit goes ahead of us to guide us toward the Promised Land. May the new life we live be good news for our neighbors and indeed for the whole creation, which is longing for God's redemption.

Blessings,
Paul




*Birthdays
of the Month*

8/3
Faye Bailey

8/6
Wayne Bailey
Dale Byington
Chuck Connor
Vicki Hughes
Ben Southam

8/12
Jean Keirsev
Billy Manis

8/16
Phyllis Hammond
Suzanne Leuck

8/21
John Bellamy

8/27
Ericka Dunn
Todd Skelton
Martha Kaye Thurman


*Anniversaries
this Month*

8/9
Danny & Kaye Thurman

8/11
Rudy & Patty Alvis
Paul Seay & Kathleen Buttolph

8/14
Michael & Rachel Seal

8/24
Roy & Gaynell Reed

8/26
Ed & Gloria Bryant

**YARD SALE ~ CAR WASH
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE HEALTH CHECK!**

On Saturday morning August 6th our Youth will sponsor a Car Wash and Vehicle Maintenance Health Check. The Vehicle Maintenance Health Check will be a service provided by two of our resident experts, Roy Reed and Charles Johnson. After Roy and Charles look over your car they will give you a checklist of your vehicle's health and any recommendations they have. After this inspection you can take your car across the parking lot and have it washed by our youth. Donations will be accepted and will go to support youth programming this fall and winter.



The Church Yard Sale is August 5 – 6 from 8-? and will take place at the church picnic shelter. Funds raised from the Yard Sale will go to support the building fund.

Ice Cream Supper

Everyone is invited to the parsonage for our annual Ice cream Supper on August 7th at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a chair, a friend and your favorite sweet treat to share with others.



Volunteers in Ministry

USHERS

- 8/7 Rudy Alvis & Jack Pierce
 8/14 Roy Reed & Charles Johnson
 8/21 Chuck Conner & James Boehms
 8/28 Gary Harris & Keith Hawkins

**If anyone needs to change their scheduled time, please contact Rudy Alvis.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

- 8/14 Harold Collins
 8/21 Dottie Collins
 8/28 Suzanne Leuck

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 8/14 Carrie Smith
 8/21 Kristi Cardenas
 8/28 Patty Alvis



The United Methodist Men will meet on August 13th at 8:00 a.m. Please make plans now to attend.



The United Methodist Women will be meeting on Thursday, August 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having our annual "Card Making" evening! We make and use these special cards to send to our shut-ins and to those who need our thoughts and prayers! Be sure to join us for an evening of fun! See you there!

Terri Lippert



In Memory of Ruby Bellamy

- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-Building Fund

In Memory of Edith Doran

- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-HVAC

In Memory of Dale Hanna

- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-Building Fund

In Memory of Jean Lipe

- By Gene & Lynda Skelton
-HVAC
- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-Building Fund

In Memory of Louise Mallett

- By Virgil Mallett
-HVAC
- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-HVAC

In Memory of Jean Smith

- By Rudy & Patty Alvis
-HVAC

In Memory of James N. Thurman

- By Tommy & Earline Bellamy
-Church Maintenance

July Worship Attendance

- July 3 – 105
- July 10 – 98
- July 17 – 101






CALENDAR

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SURGOINSVILLE



AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Choir 7:00 p.m.	4 UMW 7:00 p.m.	5 Yard Sale 8:00 a.m. -? Hawkins Co. 	6 Yard Sale 8:00 a.m. -? Vehicle Check & Car Wash 9:00 a.m.
7 *Sunday School 10:00 a.m. *Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. *Ice Cream Supper 6:00 p.m. *No Evening Worship	8	9	10 Choir 7:00 p.m.	11	12	13 UMM Breakfast 8:00 a.m.
14 *Sunday School 10:00 a.m. *Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. *Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.	15	16	17 Choir 7:00 p.m.	18 <u>NEWSLETTER</u> <u>ARTICLES DUE</u> <u>BY END</u> <u>OF DAY</u>	19	20
21 *Sunday School 10:00 a.m. *Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. *Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24 Choir 7:00 p.m.	25 <u>NEWSLETTER</u> <u>POSTED ON</u> <u>WEBSITE &</u> <u>EMAILED</u>	26	27
28 *Sunday School 10:00 a.m. *Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. *Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.	29	30	31 Choir 7:00 p.m.			

OUR CONTINUED PRAYERS

Please contact the office with information on answered prayers. Thank you.


Prayer Concerns: Garnet Allen; Rudy Alvis; Curtis Amos; Scott Andrews (Debbie Harris); Shirley Bledsoe (Garnet Allen's caregiver); Brandon Bowman; Jason Brunner (Charles Johnson); Becky Bowman; Gilbert Brewer; Lynn Bungert; Charles Caldwell; John Catlet (Dottie Collins); Alberta Cleek (Wes Smith's grandmother); Alice Deaton (Harold Collins); Earl Dunn (friend of Rudy & Patty Alvis); Sonya Dykes; Marie & Lora Edens (Kristi Cardenas' parents); Jeff & Tiffany Fleenor & children (Wes Smith's cousin); Margaret Fletcher (Mary Anne Farmen's Aunt); Susan Grill (friend of Mary Anne Farmen); Ophelia Hughes (James Hughes niece); Harlan Hunley (Blaine Hunley's father); Linda Hutson (Wes Smith's Aunt); Charles Johnson; Greg Johnson (Charles Johnson's son); Lisa Johnson; Family of Jean Lipe; Family of Louise Mallett; Virgil Mallet; Mark Mayes (Carrie Smith's friend's husband); Josephine Medearis (Lois Williams' sister); Nancy Kate Miller; Neil Miller; Greg & Stacy Mitchell; James Moffitt (Dakota Starks' uncle); Hazel Morelock; Penny Mullins; Kathy Parker; Jacob Phelps (Gene & Lynda Skelton); Mr. and Mrs. Plymale (Mozel Justice's parents); Jesse Rogers (Mary Nile Southam's student); Michael Seal; Dennis Short & wife; Sarah Smith (friend of Chuck Conner's granddaughter); Bobby Schwin (Kristi Cardenas); Clark Wallace Jr.; Joyce Anne Wampler (Harold Collins' sister); Sarah Williams (John Williams' mother)

Our Service Personnel Overseas & Families:

Greg Harris (Gary Harris' nephew); Adam Walker

Just a little reminder

We recycle aluminum cans and aluminum foil and aluminum pie tins and the funds go to our youth programs! The can container is right outside the backdoor!

Surgoinsville First United Methodist Church Scholarship applications may be picked up now in the church office. The deadline is August 7th. If you have any questions please see a member of the Scholarship Committee. 

The Hawkins Co Cancer Support Group

The Hawkins County Cancer support group meets every second Monday of the month at Hope Christian Church at 6:00 p.m. All cancer patients, cancer survivors and for caregivers are invited to attend. For more information please contact Betty Goins at 423-345-3049 or email her at goinsp@bellsouth.net.



Buffalo BASH

3rd annual

SATURDAY

August 27th

8 am - 2 pm

FREE Activities for the kids

Hot air balloon rides, swimming, zip line (for 4th grade and up) crafts, inflatables (for younger kids), hiking, kayaking on the pond, and more (all dependent on weater conditions)

Disc Golf Tournament*

Two-person best shot scramble (registration required)

Silent Auction

With proceeds going towards capital improvements

Lunch

Adults \$5
Children (ages 1-12) \$3

More information
coming soon to our website
www.buffalomountaincamp.org



BUFFALO MOUNTAIN
CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Where Faith and Fun Come Naturally!



Trustees News :

The Trustees meeting held on July 12, 2011 was for the purpose of beginning a church-wide discussion of building a new fellowship hall and was open to anyone who wanted to attend.

Other business:

- 1) The handrail on the basement steps of the parsonage needs to be replaced as soon as possible with a new, sturdy handrail.
- 2) A bookcase from the pastor's office recently had to be disposed of due to damage from dampness. None of Paul's books were damaged, but the water problem in the basement must be addressed soon.
- 3) Todd Bellamy and Gene Skelton volunteered recently to weed-eat the bank. Thank you!

FELLOWSHIP HALL DISCUSSION:

Pastor Seay asked two questions for the church to keep in mind as we discuss the idea of building a fellowship hall:

- 1) **How is God glorified?**
- 2) **How are our neighbors benefited?**

A brain storming session followed and resulted in the following thoughts:

Why build a fellowship hall?

- Help neighbors and community with meeting space
- It will allow church growth. Current space is limiting
- We've save money for years. NOW is the time to spend it
- More space will draw in more people
- Now is a good time. Funds donated for this purpose need to be spent
- Costs go up while waiting for more money or a better time
- Sunday School space is needed.

What needs to we have?

- Kitchen update to be larger and more modern
- Areas of use that do not require set-up and take-down for functions
- Education space
- Restrooms that are handicap accessible
- Space for service, such as:
 - Jimmy Luster party
 - Clothes Closet
 - Soup & Scripture
 - Food Pantry
- Build space that will allow the removal of the little house and the garage
- Secretary's office and pastor's office

What to look for? What do we envision?

- Table and chair seating for 125 or more
- Kitchen
- Handicap accessible bathrooms
- Senior accessible
- Free standing building – not attached to existing structure
- Storage on a separate level with garage door access

Our next steps will be:

- Prayer throughout the process
- Meet with District Superintendent David Graves
- Call on Finance Committee

First Saturday August 20, 2011

Christ Fellowship Church
260 Victory Lane • Kingsport, TN
423/349-0600

Workshops:

Please select **one** workshop you wish to attend.

Session 1: Addiction – Celebrate Freedom

This workshop is designed to share how one overcomes addictions and through the power of Christ is set free.
Leader: Roger Murrell

Session 2: Fatherhood – Dad! C'mon Man!?!?

Feel like you have dropped the ball as a dad? Or want to be sure not to in the future? Here, you will receive the tools to make an eternal impact on your kids regardless of their age.
Leader: Rev. Jason Roe

Session 3: Spiritual – How to be a Christian in a Secular World

This workshop will focus on building relationships with un-churched people and living out our faith as we enter the mission field once we leave our church buildings.
Leaders: Rev. David Graves and Rev. Randy Frye

Session 4: Worship – How to Help Men Worship!

Come learn how to design worship with men in mind and creating environments that are attractive to men.
Leader: Jason Boyd

Clergywomen's Session – Men's Ministries from a Clergywoman's Perspective

Bishop Swanson is leading a discussion with clergywomen on ways they can strengthen men's ministries in their local churches.
Leader: Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.

**Directions to
Christ Fellowship Church
Kingsport, TN • 423/349-0600**
260 Victory Lane • Kingsport, TN



From I-81 North take Exit 57B onto I-26 East; take Exit 6 Rock Spring; from Rock Spring, turn left onto Westfield Drive, turn left onto Victory Lane. (Coming East on I-26 take Exit 6 Rock Springs. Turn right on Rock Springs Road, turn left on Westfield Drive.)

Why should you come to Calling All Men?

This spiritual gathering is to strengthen and inspire us on our journey with Christ. It does not matter if you are a man just coming to Christ for the first time or you have been a Christian for many years. From the theme Bible verses the simple principles are love God and love others. Let these two principles rule your thoughts, decisions and actions, and you will "Serve One and Love All." Come see what men's ministry and God's love is all about.

Schedule:

Saturday

8:30 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Celebrate local church and district projects
9:30 a.m.	Welcome and Music
10:00 a.m.	Speaker
11:00 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m.	Choice of 1 of 3 workshops for men Female Pastors attend special session
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Music
2:00 p.m.	Worship and Holy Communion



Speakers:



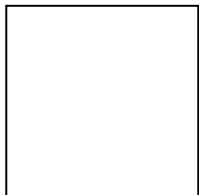
Bishop James Swanson, Sr., began his duties in Holston Conference when elected to the episcopacy in 2004. Prior to his election, he was Superintendent of the Savannah District in the South Georgia Conference. He is a popular preacher, teacher, and leader in our United Methodist connection. Bishop Swanson and his wife, Delphine, have six children and ten grandchildren. His hobbies include golf and walking.




Rev. Greg Depriest has been the lead Pastor of Christ Fellowship Church in Kingsport, TN, for 19 years. Greg attended Mississippi State University and accepted the pastoral position at Christ Fellowship Church in March of 1992. Today, average attendance is over eleven hundred. Greg and his wife, Denise have been married 27 years and have two grown children.



Mr. Bob Kesling was named the Director of Broadcasting at the University of Tennessee and the lead announcer of the Vol Network in the fall of 1999. He is the radio play-by-play voice for Tennessee football and basketball on the 80-plus station Vol Network, and also hosts Vol Network-produced coaches shows. Kesling and his wife Tami are parents of two daughters.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 OF SURGOINSVILLE
 621 Old Stage Coach Road
 P.O. Box 134
 Surgoinsville, TN 37873



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Read *The Messenger*, our monthly newsletter, on our
 website: www.surgoinsvilleumc.com

Staff:

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Kathy Hurd,
 Church Secretary
secretaryumc@bellsouth.net

Becky Bowman, Choir Director

Lora Williams, Pianist

Jean Keirsey, Organist

Dottie Collins, Custodian