



Cedar Grove UMC

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From the Pastor's Desk . . .

The Beacon

June 2014



Office Hours

Monday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm

As we move into June, I am completing my first year as your pastor. It has been an interesting year with lots of changes for me. The biggest change of course was coming to a new church, but that change also included buying my first home, commuting to work, and dealing with a cell phone including texting. (Note: it would be a great help to me when you send me a text to put your name in the text so I know who it is.) While I think overall we have had a good first year together, we need to do even better in the years to come.

While our church and all churches to some degree slow down in the summer, we have some important things going on that I hope you will all support with your time, talent, money and prayers.

--MARTHA LYDIA CIRCLE YARD AND BAKE SALE: June 7th 8am to 1pm

--VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 22nd to June 26th 6:30pm to 8:30pm

It is not too late to volunteer to help, and we are hoping that everyone will let the children K-5th grade in their neighborhoods know about the great week we have planned. You will also have the opportunity to donate money to the mission project for VBS which involves getting people clean drinking water. (We will be collecting money for this project on June 15th and June 22nd.) Please pray for our VBS that every child and adult who joins us might be touched by the love and truth of God.

-- THE BREAKFAST CLUB: As you all know we lead a program along with other area churches that brings breakfast to needy children during the Summer. Contact Ingrid Quimby-High if you have any questions and if you want to donate money just put it in the plate in an envelope marked 'Breakfast Club'. Please pray for this ministry and for the needy children in our area.

-- THE SPY MISSION TRIP: July 12th to July 18th

Please pray for the adults and youth who will be going on the SPY Mission Trip this year.

Finally, don't forget the Homeless trip, the Lighthouse Shelter meals and our own Nursery that need volunteers all year long!

Your fellow servant of Jesus the Christ,

Glen

ROSES GROW IN HEAVEN

If roses grow in heaven, Lord please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my mothers' arms tell her I love her and miss her
And when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.
Because remembering her is easy, I do it every day
But there's an ache within my heart that will never go away.

(A poem shared at the worship service on Mother's Day.)



Book Corner



The Message of Prayer Timothy Chester IVP 2003 271pgs (Includes study guide)

Jesus, Man of Prayer Margaret Magadalen IVP 1987 239pgs

They Cried to the Lord: The Form and Theology of Biblical Prayer Patrick Miller Fortress 1994 464pgs

Since I will be preaching on the Lord's Prayer in the month of June and prayer in general, I thought I would recommend three books that address what the Bible has to say about prayer, in terms of practice and content of our prayers.

Miller's book is the most academic oriented and primarily focuses on the Old Testament, although it does conclude with an excellent chapter on the New Testament. It has a great appendix listing many of the prayers in the Bible and outlines them. This book is very detailed exploring not only what is prayed for, but in what position people did pray and so on.

Magadalen's book is from a series titled "The Jesus Library"; all of the volumes are excellent. Obviously this book focuses on the prayer life of Jesus. Of the three books I am introducing, this is the most reader friendly and has a great section in the back of practical suggestions on how to apply what you learn in three of the chapters in the book to your own life.

Chester's book is divided into two sections, the foundations of prayer and the practice of prayer. Using one or several chapters of Scripture in each chapter, you learn what we are to pray for, how we are to pray, and the many ways God answers our prayers. The study guide in the back will help you to dig deeper and think constructively about your own prayer life.

There are many 'how to' pray books out there and most of them are quite excellent but I wanted to focus as I always do on resources that focus on what the Bible says about prayer.

CHURCH NEWS

LOST? A key for the main church building was found in the parking lot in a black 'Transit Truck Center Laurel Maryland' pouch. If this key is yours, Pastor Glen has it.

On **Memorial Day**, our church parking lot near the flag pole was full of people honoring and remembering those who died fighting for our nation. The Deale Historical Society sponsored this event, and many of our church members were involved. This year they had a band, military color guard, Boy Scout Troop, exhibits from the Deale Historical Society, and some really moving readings. It was a great event and I would encourage everyone to consider attending this event next year.

A New Pulpit: While no final decision has been made as I write this article, a family in the church is going to donate funds so that a wooden pulpit will be built and then used in our sanctuary. The wood color will match the baptismal font and communion table, it will be portable, and most of all will allow your preacher to stop piling stuff in plain view on that stool next to the podium I currently use.

The **old benches** that were in the front of the church and replaced by the two new ones are being refinished and will now be located next to the office door near the swings. Doug Sheidy took this project on and has one finished and returned. It looks great!

New members! We will be having four new members joining the church during the Summer.

Acolyte Coordinator Needed: I am finding it more and more difficult to get someone to be the acolyte on Sunday as I go between teaching Sunday School and preparing for worship. I would like someone to volunteer for this role or we may have to discontinue having acolytes. If you are interested in this role, please let me know. ~ Pastor Glen