

SHARING



Hohenwald United Methodist Church

(September) – (October) 2017

200 South Court St. * Hohenwald, TN 38462 * 931-796-2681 * firstunitedme680@bellsouth.net

From the Pastor's Desk



Bible Verse—Romans 3: 22-24—“...For there is no distinction; since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus...”

Thirteen-year-old Natalie Gilbert had the unthinkable happen, as she sang the National anthem in front of almost 20,000 fans before a Portland Trailblazer basketball game on April 25, 2003—she forgot the words! The lyrics were supposed to have been projected on the screen at the auditorium, but they were not. In complete embarrassment, she turned to look at her parents who were behind her, and froze in terror. As the music continued, six-foot, six inch tall Maurice Cheeks, former NBA star and the Trailblazer coach, walked from the bench to Gilbert, put his arm around her, and began to sing with her. The coach—who is no great singer—sang along with Gilbert, who was so shaken by her mishap that she, too, was not singing very well. The coach motioned with his hands to the crowd, and the fans in the arena began to join in singing the National Anthem. Throughout the remainder of the song, the coach sang off key standing next to Gilbert with his arm placed tenderly about her shoulders to

support her. When the song was over, the shaken-but-relieved teenager looked up at the coach and with a heart filled with overwhelming gratitude said, “Thank you.” Gilbert said, “What was one of the most horrible moments of my life turned into one of the most wonderful.”

Despite our best efforts, like Gilbert, we stumble and fall. We “sin and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). However, in a manner far greater than the example of Coach Cheeks, Jesus did more than come to our side; he took our place! Christ has changed our failure and bad news into the ultimate good news.

In Christ,

—Drew





"Saint Francis Distributes the Elements"

Half mad from the cold
he stands barefoot on ice.

The peace of winter be with you, he says.
And also with you, reply the snowy owls.

Lift up your hearts, he says.
It is right to give him praise, say the goats.

Canyons deepen in awe, he says.
He provides water at the bottom, say the mules.

The Lord judges all things.
Even the wind dies, say the birds.

He distributes the nuts and fruit.
They eat.

He pours root tea into a turtle shell.
They drink.

The feast is over, he says.
They bask in the warmth.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, he says,
and finds himself alone.

Written by Brother *Drew Brewer*



Committee and Group Reports

Committee on Christian Witness

The Christian Witness Committee met on August 3rd in the church library. Minutes were read from the last meeting before the group discussed new business. Packets for porch visitor volunteers had been completed as well as a list of those who volunteered to bake goods for the individuals visited.

The cost of the Servants' entrance and exit signs was discussed as well as a date for having this project finished. (See article and pictures later in this newsletter.) The group agreed on where these signs would be placed and the size of them.

Mark Warrington continues to update the church website. The web address is hohenwaldumc.org, which contains copies of all past church newsletters and sermons.

The group also discussed the Radio Ministry. Donations for this ministry to continue are still needed. See Mark Warrington if interested. The cost is \$25 dollars per week. Mark downloads these onto the church webpage for easy access to all church members as well as anyone else who would like to listen.

Camille Kelley and Jennifer Bowen continue to collect visitor cards each week. These cards help generate a list of porch visits where visitors will be provided with a brief visit from a church member who delivers a tasty dessert as well as an informative church brochure that outlines what our church has to offer. A glassed in bulletin board donated by Mr. Kenneth Kistler has been updated by Susie Cullinan with pictures of recent new church members. Donna Hood continues to replace visitor cards, pencils, and offering cards as needed in the church sanctuary.

The group also discussed having a Healing Prayer possibly during the next 5th Sunday service.

**Respectfully Submitted by Sue Brown,
Chairperson**

Committee on Christian Outreach

The Committee on Christian Outreach would like to remind all members that the Food and Clothing Bank is requesting donations of boxed macaroni and cheese, tuna, and canned meats. A collection basket is available in the narthex.

This is the time of the year to get out the fall and winter clothing. If you have items no longer needed, please consider donating to the

Nashville Rescue Mission located in the church office area.

Church-wide Christmas 2017 giving events are Little Swan Hunting Club and the Lewis County Food and Clothing Bank. Information regarding how you can participate begins in early November. Opening hearts to others would be appreciated.

Cherokee Children's Ministry

The Cherokee Children's Ministry is collecting items for the children in this orphanage. Shipments are being delivered regularly to serve these children ages preemie to 18 years old. Boxes are available in the UMW workroom in the Sunday School building for donated items. For specific information regarding this ministry, please contact Linda Graves (931-729-9397) or Joyce McCutcheon (931-628-6948).

Kairos Prison Ministry

The Kairos Prison Ministry has requested once again that we provide cookies for the November weekend event in the Nashville prison. Our goal is 100 dozen cookies. The only approved cookies are peanut butter, oatmeal, molasses, chocolate chip, cake mix, and sugar. These are made using very specific recipes and cannot be provided if any other type of recipe or other variety of cookie is made. Guidelines for anything entering the prison are made for safety precautions.

Cookies can be brought to the church library on Tuesday, November 7th between 9 and 2 p.m. If you need another time, please contact Joyce McCutcheon (931-628-6948).

Bring cookies on a disposable plate and mark the type of cookie.

Cookie recipes are available in the church narthex, side entrance to the sanctuary, and in the church office.

**Previous Three Articles Respectfully
Submitted by Joyce McCutcheon,
Chairperson**

United Methodist Women

The following information sums up the September meeting. Once again, the UMW is participating in the Adopt-a-Class program. We are sponsoring Krista Staggs' 4th grade class. Also we have completed 50 Christmas shoeboxes for children, and they are on their way to Decatur, Alabama. Thanks to all who contributed to the cost and packaging of this project.

Six members attended the Annual UMW District Conference at Franklin First United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 16th. Those who attended were Debby Campbell, Barbara Lewis, Betty Stilts, Cora Criss, and Cheri France. They delivered a trunk load of cleaning products in support of Cedar Crest Camp.

As our members begin planning for our annual bazaar, there is much to be done. The bazaar, an annual fund raiser for UMW, will be held Saturday, November 11th. Once again, we will feature a quilt giveaway and a quilt silent auction. Our beautiful giveaway quilt (size 72 inches by 92 inches), pictured below, was made by Gwynn McVickers and finished by Gloria Jones. Tickets are still available up until the date of the bazaar. The donations can be purchased at two dollars each or two for five dollars from any UMW member. The silent auction quilt is being prepared by Cora Criss. Look for more bazaar information in the near future.

Elections were held for next year's officers. Beginning in January, we welcome the following:

President: Cora Criss; Vice President: Barbara Lewis; Secretary: Cheri France; and Treasurer: Betty Stilts.

The United Methodist women were very pleased to have Sandra Thompson come and speak to the group during their October 9th regular meeting. Sandra, who is now retired, was an employee of the State of Tennessee, serving as office manager of the Children Social Services.

Our unit of the UMW is one of giving and passion in helping those in need, especially children. Foster children from several counties are served right here in Hohenwald, many coming at all hours of the night, needing many

things; mainly, someone who will take care of them, love them, and welcome them into their families.

If anyone is interested in helping them financially, send donations to: Child Help Task Force, P.O. Box 279, Hohenwald, TN 38462.



(Picture of the Donation Quilt mentioned in article posted above.)



Respectfully submitted by Debby Campbell and Martha Edwards

United Methodist Men

The UMM met for monthly meetings in September and October. The September meeting focused on what the remaining money of the group would be spent on. Much of the meeting centered around the planning of the annual Pancake Brunch, held Sunday after church on September 24th. The event was a great success due to the hard work of several UMM members. A delicious breakfast of pancakes (plain, blueberry, and chocolate chip), scrambled eggs, and sausage were served with juice, water, or tea. Ice cream sundaes were an extra bonus rounding out a great meal. The UMM appreciate the supporters of this event and look forward to hosting it again next year.

The group has also worked diligently to provide lawn care for individuals, both community and church members, who needed the assistance.

The UMM are in the process of planning a fish fry for the 5th Sunday of October's church meal, October 29th. Announcements will be made later about how church members can help.

Respectfully Submitted by Mark Warrington, President



Sunday School Reports

Pathfinder's Sunday School Class

This class had one glorious picnic at the home of Kenny Durham on August 26th with 28 members attending. Kenny's home and yard provided a relaxed and spacious atmosphere where members of the class could talk, laugh, share stories, and get better acquainted with one another. The food that everyone brought was ultra fantastic, and no one hesitated to fill his/her plates—maybe more than once. The

only thing missing was Kenny serenading us with his talented voice accompanied by his awesome guitar playing. Great friends, great food, and a great time were had by all. Thank you, Kenny Durham, for your gracious hospitality. Also thanks to our wonderful Sunday School teacher and pastor, Brother Drew Brewer, who is our leader on many levels in the realm of God's House of Glory. Another get-together is in the planning stage for the Pathfinder's Christmas Party.

**Respectfully Submitted By,
Cindy Graves**



Junior/Senior High Sunday School Class

Right now the Jr./Sr. High Sunday school class is smack in the middle of the David and Bathsheba story. King David has assumed the throne of the country of Israel and is sitting in his new residence in Jerusalem, the city which until now was known as Zion.

David has already been informed by the prophet Nathan that David will not be allowed by God to build a temple to house the Arch of the Covenant, but that duty will be left to his son at a later date.

Despite David's efforts to cover up the adulterous pregnancy of Bathsheba from her husband, Uriah the Hittite, Uriah's honor foiled David's plans and, instead of coming clean by admitting this adultery, David ends up ordering Joab, the leader of the Israelite army, to set up Uriah at the front of the most contested battle lines and allow him to be killed by the enemy.

The plan is successful, and after the period of mourning for her dead husband, Bathsheba moves into the palace with King David and has the illegitimate child.

All of this intrigue angers God, the resultant baby dies, and the rule of David falls into a temporary downward slide. Other family intrigues including incestuous rape and murder plague David's rule, but David remains true to the God who placed him at the head of the state of Israel, and the Book of Psalms, much of which David is said to have authored, begins to be the focus of the remainder of Beth Moore's book entitled *David*.

Respectfully Submitted by Dr. Jerry Turner

Youth Choir News

The Hohenwald FUMC Youth Choir performed for the first time since school began on Sunday, August 27th during the morning service. These students showed up and showed out when they performed a version of the spiritual, "Do Lord," accompanied by our awesomely talented pianist, Brenda Duncan. They are to be commended for their time, talent, and performing abilities. This group, along with other students, meets every Wednesday in the church at 3:00 p.m. with Jennifer Bowen, the Children and Youth Director, for spiritual guidance, refreshments, and fun activities. At 4:00 p.m. members of the choir go into the sanctuary for a one-hour rehearsal. Those who are not picked up are transported home in the church van driven by our loyal supporter, Cora Criss.

If you have a child or grandchild who loves to sing, please encourage him/her to get involved. It is not a requirement to attend or be a member of our church; thus, please extend an invitation to others who might be interested. This experience is not just about singing a song. Students learn how to perform by exuding self-confidence, enthusiasm, self-control, focus, and most of all, they are having fun doing so. Music is a great foundation for building positive self-concepts and expanding social skills.

**Respectfully
Submitted by,**

**Cindy Graves
Youth Choir Director**



Members of Youth Choir:

Gabriel and Xavier Shoon, Christopher and Hadley Spitzer, Katherine Cruz, Rebecca Robdins, Christian and Conner Ganus, Lorrel Sood, and Chris Fierce. New members not pictured: Starr Holmes, Sierra Mayberry, and Nevaeh Groves.

Sanctuary

As you enter and exit the church sanctuary from the main door, take time to notice the signs above the doorways. These signs were placed in completion of a project by the Christian Witness Committee. They are there as a reminder of the importance of our servitude to God as we enter the church and exit every Sunday. We should always be aware of those in need and follow through with what our heart tells us we need to do. We should always be there for others in the capacity of a friend and mentor, letting them know the comfort a relationship with God can hold.

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Mark 10: 45)



Coming soon—due to a death and illness in our families, the article highlighting a church member (s) is not in this issue but will be in the next. I look forward to meeting with and interviewing John and Rose Fricot. Thank you, Sally

Thank You—Church members continue to provide comfort and solace to those who have lost loved ones or deal with personal illness or illness within their families.



Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,
if so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all,
just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts,
we thank you so very much,
whatever the part.

**Family of Janet Seiber—Daughter-in-law
of Johnny and Wanda Creasy**

“Because I Could Not Stop for Death”

Because I could not stop for Death,
He kindly stopped for me;
The carriage held but just ourselves
And immortality.

We slowly drove, he knew no haste,
And I had put away
My labor, and my leisure too,
For his civility.
We passed the school, where children strove
At recess, in the ring;
We passed the fields of gazing grain,
We passed the setting sun.

Or rather, he passed us;
The dewes grew quivering and chill;
For only gossamer my gown,
My tippet only tulle.

We paused before a house that seemed
A swelling of the ground;
The roof was scarcely visible,
The cornice but a mound.

Since then 'tis centuries, and yet each
Feels shorter than the day
I first surmised the horses' heads
Were toward eternity.
(Emily Dickinson)

**The family of Richard D. Thornton would like
to take this opportunity to thank the First
United Church of Hohenwald's members for
all the kind words, prayers, and concern
during Ronny's father's illness. Your
support has meant the world to us. We know
he is at peace and with his Lord and Savior.**

Changes to Church Directory

Please make the following changes to your
church directory:

Kenny Durham
318 N. Oak
Hohenwald, TN 38462
Phone: 931-628-1133

Kermit Harris
53051 Pine Creek Rd.
Chesterfield, MI 48047

Jerry and Jan Turner
Phone: 310-770-9963

Rose Fricot
Correction to email address:
knittenn@gmail.com

News & Announcements

- The new deadlines for the November/December church newsletter will be November 24th for November news and December 13th for December news. Send to Sally Thornton via e-mail (sjt2017fmc@gmail.com) or place in the mailbox marked newsletter outside Jennifer Bowen's office.
- United Methodist Men's meetings are November 7th and December 5th at 6:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.
- United Methodist Women's meetings are November 13th and December 11th at 1:00 p.m. in the church library.
- Our Radio Ministry, which is broadcast on WMLR AM each Sunday morning, depends solely on the support of our members. The cost is \$25 a week. If you would like to make a donation, just designate your check to "HUMC Radio Ministry," and give to Mark Warrington.
- Saturday, October 28th from 4-6 p.m. at South Court Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenues) in Hohenwald, the First Baptist Church, Hohenwald Church of Christ, and Hohenwald First United Methodist Church will be hosting food, fun for kids, music, and Christian fellowship—a Neighborhood Street Party and Chili Cook Off. The cost is \$5 per

person or \$20 for a family. The proceeds will be given to the Lewis County School System and Hohenwald Police Department. In case of rain, the event will take place same time, same place the following week. Everyone is welcome and bring a friend.

- The United Methodist Men will provide our 5th Sunday luncheon for October. A fish fry will be held immediately after the worship service on October 29th. Four groups are asked to bring salads, desserts, and side dishes (cole slaw, white beans, etc.)
- Brother Drew will be on vacation from October 16-25. The church office will remain open, and he can be contacted through the church secretary, Jennifer Bowen. Dr. Jerry Turner and Gloria Jones have agreed to assist with any pastoral concerns that might arise.
- Beginning November 5th thru December 10th at 5:30 p.m., there will be a six week study of Adam Hamilton's video-book on ***Christianity and World Religions: Wrestling with Questions People Ask***. Please make plans to attend if interested.

The Sharing Newsletter is published as a service of the Committee on Christian Outreach every two months. To submit news, contact the editor, Sally Thornton, at (859-585-2707, cell or 931-295-3302, home, or email her at slt2017fmc@gmail.com