



Strength for the Day

Editor Ellen

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples (AKA followers) of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As members of Waukee UMC, you and I play a role in helping to fulfill that mission. That isn't news, but rather a more specific rendition of the Two Commandments Jesus Christ spoke long before our denomination came into existence.

As recorded in Mark 12:30-31 (KJV), Jesus said, "thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

Many of the people you and I interact with each day probably aren't yet living the life God planned for them. As I see it, that means they're existing, rather than living. Sharing the Good News with them must surely be the most profound expression of love.

Now assuming you've made your belief in God and His (amazing) Grace known to others, each thought you produce has an impact on how others view Him. Although you may keep most of your thoughts to yourself, some do undoubtedly result in tangible words and deeds. When you're known as a Child of God, these expressions of your thoughts ought to glorify God.

Things don't always work-out that way, though. Everyone has dark, less-than-Christlike thoughts at times...some more often than others. Don't beat yourself up though; Jesus Christ is the only perfect person who's ever lived. However, based on my experience, you can improve the quality of the thoughts you allow to enter your mind. *cont page 2*

Obedient Servants

Editor Ellen

What do Jesus Christ and an American soldier have in common? Calvin posed that question to me, not long before embarking on his 47-month journey at West Point. What can I say? The lad asks deep questions... It's a good thing I have until Christmas to prepare my response.

So far, I've identified these key similarities:

- 1) Each fulfills/fulfilled their Commanding Officer's orders. Jesus Christ completed the work God had planned for Him, all the way to the Cross. Along the way, He endured relentless temptation, scorn, pain, rejection, and ridicule. American soldiers are often subjected to similar treatment, often by Americans who already enjoy freedoms secured by the blood of fallen soldiers. Other times, it's people around the world who can only dream of those freedoms who are the culprits.
- 2) Neither Jesus nor an American soldier knew/knows most of the people they're committed to saving.

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Contacts & Times

When an article says to contact someone for more information, see *Contact Info* on the back page. Also, times listed in *The Vine* are p.m., unless noted otherwise.

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August 2017 Calendar

1 (Tu) Celebrations, 6:30
Missions, 6:30

6 (Su) Communion

7 (M) Mission Quilters, 6:30

8 (Tu) Member Care, 6:30

13 (Su) Bells
D-Team, 5:30

14 (M) Prayer Shawl, 6:30

15 (Tu) SPRT, 6:30

17 (Th)  Lunch Bunch, 11:30
JN Board, 5:00
Ad Board, 7:00
Finance, 7:00

20 (Su)  Kindergarten Blankets
 Cutler Mission Dinner, 5:30

21 (M)  Mission Quilters, 6:30
Trustees, 6:30
 Book Talk

26 (Sa)  Noah's AARP Progressive Supper

28 (M) Prayer Shawl, 6:30

Flowers for Your Special Day

If you'd like to share a special anniversary, birthday, or whatever-you-choose-day with our church family, Classic Floral will place a bouquet of flowers on the altar for just \$15. The vase that's provided needs to remain at church, but you're welcome to take the flowers home with you after the services.



Deanne is now taking reservations for Sundays in August and September. Please contact her to sign-up for your special day and to arrange your payment. Deanne can also answer questions related to this opportunity.

Trinity Supper Club



NEW DATE: Monday, Sept. 18

OLD DATE: Monday, Sept. 11

Please update your calendars so you don't miss the opportunity to help with our September Trinity Supper, in support of the Children and Family Urban Movement.

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You see, my stroke zapped a sort of tact filter I'd developed during my first 33 years. It's complicated, but each person has a filter that prevents thoughts from being automatically displayed on their face. That filter becomes more refined with time and experience, which helps explain why it's so easy to "read a child's mind."

Given my filter got "reset" in 2000, it's currently about as refined as that of a 17-year-old. To help accommodate for that glitch, I focus on allowing only godly thoughts to enter my mind. For starters, I confronted the automatic thoughts that cross my mind during tense driving moments.

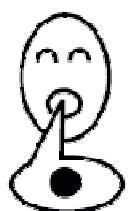
I decided to start being grateful and relieved after the inevitable near-misses of driving. Sure...it felt awkward the first time I thought, "Thank-you Jesus!" after a near-miss, but what an improvement over the default, angry thought of, "You *?#*% idiot!"

Always remember, as a follower of Jesus Christ, the thoughts you entertain are as important as what you say and do. As Francis of Assisi said, "It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching."

Thoughts



Words



Deeds





If you'd like to strengthen your connection with God and with others in our church, join one (or more) of our small groups. The small groups listed below are available to help you form and develop these connections. If you have an idea for starting your own small group, contact Deanne for suggestions.

Sign-up for these groups will begin Sunday, Aug. 13, in our Fellowship Hall.

First Thursday Women's Study Group

Meets in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 the First Thursday of each month, starting Sept. 14. This year's study is *Twelve More Women of the Bible*. Women of all ages welcome.

Disciple Study of the New Testament

We'll meet at 6:30 on Sundays in the Caudle home for 60-90 minutes. The first of eight gatherings will be Sept. 10. This study includes some daily reading. Are you ready to dig a little deeper?

Take the Flag Small Group

Multiple opportunities will be available for discussion of this sermon series. Check the sign-up sheets for the group that best fits your needs. All groups will start the week of Sept. 10.

Family Small Groups

These groups are intended to include children of similar ages. They often meet in a home and tend to be more social than formal, while still incorporating some curriculum. You'll be encouraged to follow the current sermon series (if applicable) but can work with Deanne to select a different curriculum, if desired.

We hope to establish one or two new Family Small Groups this fall. Bear in mind, with kids around, some flexibility will be necessary to accommodate member needs.

If you have a youngster(s) and would like to expand your circle of church connections and friends, this group may be ideal for you. For more information or to sign-up for the fun, please contact Deanne.

Heroes Serving Heroes

Dennis Soughan reminded us recently it takes heroes in all shapes and sizes to make the magic happen at Waukee UMC. We still need some heroes to help our remaining Summer Mix services flow smoothly. Please sign-up at the (temporary) C.C.

We'll return to scheduling ushers, greeters, and communion servers beginning Sunday, Sept. 10. If you'd like your name added or removed from LuCinda's list of servers, please contact her.

Rev-Up for Rally Day

Mark your calendars now for our annual Rally Day celebration on Sept. 10. It's going to be BIG this year.

It's hard to believe, but our Sunday School year begins in just a few weeks. Would you consider answering the call to join our 2nd and 3rd grade teaching team?

If you're reluctant to teach every Sunday, no worries. You'll work-out a schedule with the other teaching teams to accommodate days when you're not available. When you're ready to commit, contact LuCinda. Stay tuned for more opportunities to serve.



Rally Round the Flag

Our congregation responded very positively to Pastor Rob Fuquay's book, *The God We Can Know*, during Lent in 2014. His newest sermon series, and our fall kick-off book, is *Take the Flag*. Pastor Fuquay's home is in Indianapolis, which may account for his strong interest in racing.

The spiritual life is often compared to a race and Pastor Fuquay sees a parallel between the flags used in racing and the signals God sends us in our fast-paced lives. In this Bible-based, 7-week church-wide series, Fuquay uses the flags from auto racing as a way to discuss different aspects of our life of faith.

Our *Take the Flag* sermon series will begin Sunday, Sept. 10, in conjunction with Rally Sunday.

Off to the Races

Anticipated August Days

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 ~ Dave & Molly Wempen | 17 ~ John & Barbara Shoeman |
| 1 ~ Cutler Thayer | 17 ~ Brody Hovda |
| 1 ~ Jim Sandmire | 19 ~ Marilyn Anfinson |
| 3 ~ Keith & Shirley Halverson | 19 ~ Cameron Reed |
| 3 ~ Steve Baumeister | 19 ~ Bob Henderson |
| 3 ~ Phillip Nicholson | 20 ~ Rick & Susan Kyser |
| 4 ~ David Dunn | 20 ~ Keith Brown |
| 5 ~ Todd & Kara Boothroyd | 21 ~ Peyton Delaney |
| 5 ~ Michaela Craigmile | 22 ~ Kaedyn Straw |
| 5 ~ Lloyd Royer | 23 ~ Mark & Janeal Lyons |
| 6 ~ Adam & Jessica Vaught | 23 ~ Madison Swaim |
| 6 ~ Charlene Beichley | 23 ~ Henry Kemp |
| 6 ~ Mike Blackford | 25 ~ Nolan Magee |
| 7 ~ Carter Johnson | 26 ~ Diana Rossmann |
| 7 ~ Natalie Runyan | 26 ~ Landan Straw |
| 8 ~ John & Jan Shaffer | 27 ~ Kermit & Diane Dunahoo |
| 9 ~ Jerrad Kemp | 27 ~ John Bridger |
| 9 ~ Shaun Lingala | 27 ~ Judy Applegate |
| 10 ~ Jill & Aaron Davis | 28 ~ Travis & Jennifer Senne |
| 10 ~ Kelsey Littleton | 28 ~ Patty Myers |
| 10 ~ John Pomeroy | 28 ~ Kayden Reed |
| 11 ~ Renee Menz | 28 ~ Matt Hayden |
| 13 ~ Marilyn Taylor | 29 ~ Greg & Ann Ruble |
| 14 ~ Matthew Craigmile | 30 ~ Donna Brooke |
| 15 ~ Susan Paglia | 31 ~ Eldred Petersen |
| 15 ~ Barbara Shoeman | 31 ~ John & Karen Pomeroy |
| 16 ~ Don & Kim Hartley | 31 ~ Todd Boothroyd |

Noah's AARP Progressive Supper

All those in the 50 and older age group are invited to attend a progressive supper on Saturday, Aug. 26.

We'll start with salad at the Gutshall's at 6:00, move on to the Ruble's for the main entree at 7:00, and end our evening with dessert at the Beichley's. Watch for a sign-up sheet on the table outside the offices with more details.

Diapers on a Mission Needs

Keep bringing your old/unwanted towels, flannel sheets, and t-shirts to church, please. Just put them near the coat racks by the front door.

They'll be used to make diapers for use in orphanages in developing countries..

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Jesus died to rescue all people from their sins, yet had only a few close friends...like 11 or 12. An American soldier may never even see the people whose lives they save or improve.

3) No one is forced to accept the gift of freedom provided by Jesus' Death and Resurrection or by an American soldier. Jesus gave, and soldiers give, people the opportunity to live...even to thrive...rather than simply exist. Those who do accept their priceless gift, aren't required to express their gratitude, let alone pay-it-forward by telling others how their freedom was gained.

But by golly: can you imagine the joy in Heaven when someone says, "Thank-you for giving me life," and resolves to make the most of their freedom by glorifying God and loving their neighbor as themselves?

In closing, if you think of another similarity, please let me know. ☺



Lunch Bunch

Our Third Thursday Lunch Bunch gatherings this summer have been great fun. The Pizza Ranch kitchen staff was hopping with our record-breaking group of 28 in July.

We're looking forward to another big group in August. Mark your calendar for Thursday, Aug. 17, and come to the Pizza Ranch at 11:30 for grace, good food, and good company.

Book Talk

Our summer read is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. This New York Times Bestseller and winner of the National Book Award provides a unique prospective that's, "A kinetic adventure tale of one woman's ferocious will to escape the horrors of bondage and a shattering, powerful meditation on the history we all share."

(as printed on book jacket)

Our discussion will be at Ann and Greg Ruble's home at 7:00 on Tuesday, Aug. 22.



Thanksgiving Ingathering

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. The mission is to alleviate human suffering whether caused by war, conflict, or natural disaster, with open minds and hearts to all people.

UMCOR Supply kits help to care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis. They also help to sustain everyday life by providing basic necessities to people who lack ready access to essential supplies. These kits provide vital support for the work UMCOR does throughout the world. By donating kit supplies or financial gifts to purchase the supplies, you make a direct and tangible difference in sustaining people's lives.

WUMC will again be collecting school supplies for the UMCOR School Kits and delivering them to the Thanksgiving Ingathering in Greenfield on Nov. 4. Please take a book bag slip or slips from Pastor Jamie's office window, purchase the item(s), and return them to the church. Our goal this year, is to provide 100 school kits.

School & Hygiene Supplies

Yipes! School supply shopping is just around the corner. As those sales begin, please donate some of the following supplies our Mission Team needs for their Thanksgiving Ingathering

- ✓ 70-count wide-ruled notebooks
- ✓ Rulers
- ✓ Box of 24 crayons
- ✓ 2 1/2 erasers
- ✓ Blunt-end scissors
- ✓ Hand pencil sharpeners
- ✓ Unsharpened pencils with erasers

Our Mission Team will also be making hygiene kits available to students at Waukee Elementary. For these kits, they need shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, deodorant, etc. Additional information will be posted on Pastor Jamie's office window.

Celebrating Our Kindergartners

Each Waukee UMC attender who's starting kindergarten this fall will receive a special fleece blanket from our Prayer Shawl Team during our 9:30 celebration on Aug. 20. Our records show the following youth will soon be entering school:

Colin Beltman
Kyson Freeze
Henry Kemp
Peyton Krohn
Ailey McNatt
Ellison McNatt
Finnegan Marcel
Alida Timmerman



If you know of any changes to this list, please contact Ann Ruble.

WHITE SPACE
IS NICE SPACE

FPU Returneth

Another session of Financial Peace University (FPU) will be offered this fall. Watch the Wire and Sunday announcements for more information and sign-ups.





Come to worship...stay to eat.
Join us for worship at 9:30 each Sunday from May 28 – September 3.
A brunch will follow worship each week.



Curious about upcoming events at WUMC? If so, check-out any of these information sources:

- **Facebook** – be sure to “like” Waukee United Methodist Church while you’re on Facebook.
- **Weekly church bulletin**
- **The Vine**
- **Waukee Wire** – to subscribe send an email to info@waukeechurch.org
- **Twitter** - search for @waukeechurch
- **WUMC website** - www.waukeechurch.org

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