

The Sidney United Methodist Church

News-n-Views

Volume 2019 Issue 6

June 2019

June



Church Office Hours:

***Monday-Friday
9:30am-12:30pm***

***Pastor's Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday
9:00a.m.-2:00 p.m.
or by appointment***

Sunday morning

***Worship time:
10:15 a.m.***



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Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Happy June! This means that it will get warm and sunny now right ☺? I remember last year (2018) it seemed like that we never had a season of spring, but instead that winter immediately turned right into summer! I know that we have had some warmer days this spring, but also a lot of rain too!

Whenever the weather isn't very good, I often joke with folks that "I prayed for 80-degrees and sunny weather". Since I prayed this way then, I can't be blamed for the cold and rainy weather. Obviously someone else prayed for that weather, not me!

What do we do though when we pray and we feel that God hasn't answer our prayers? Have you ever felt like that you have prayed and prayed for something and it never happened?

I have certainly been joking with folks about praying for warm and sunny weather, even though I certainly haven't been praying for cold and rainy weather. Nevertheless though, sometimes we suffer, we struggle, or we just aren't able to see God's plan for our lives. In these moments, it's easy to feel like God isn't listening, or that God isn't responding to us. What do we do in these moments? What does the Bible tell us about praying? The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess. 5:16-18, NRSV).

We are called to pray, in part, because we're commanded to do so by God. As Christians, we are people of prayer. Sometimes God answers our prayers immediately and in the way we had hoped, and sometimes not. God is with us always, even if our prayers aren't answered immediately, or if we don't get an answer or an outcome that we desired. This means that our plans are sometimes not God's plans, yet his grace and love are always offered to us.

Whatever your prayers are for in this month of June, I pray that you grow closer to God, and that you feel his presence through the grace of his son Jesus Christ. Whether or not your prayers are answered immediately or in the way you want them answered, remember that God is listening and has a plan for us all. Happy June!

In the hope of Jesus Christ ☺,
Pastor Paul W.



Vacation Bible School
To Mars and Beyond Sidney
 UMC - 12 Liberty St
 August 11 -15
 5:00 – 7:30
 Light dinner at 5:00 pm
 VBS begins at 5:30 pm
 Ages 3 – 12
 Over 12 will be helpers



For Joseph Dodson, the pressures and responsibilities of parenthood felt compounded when he and his wife adopted a son. Dodson, a Bible professor, wonders if Jesus' earthly father also struggled with doubts and fears.

Scripture doesn't say much about Joseph, but he clearly left Jesus "a significant legacy," Dodson writes in Bible Study Magazine. Joseph obeyed God — despite the risk to his reputation — by marrying a pregnant woman. Joseph, a son of David, raised the Son of David as his very own. To protect his family he fled to Egypt, foreshadowing the "new exodus" of Jesus' saving ministry. And Joseph heard neighbors mock Jesus as "the carpenter's son."

"Joseph taught Jesus much more than woodworking," Dodson writes. "He modeled for his adopted son how, for God's glory, he must drink the Father's cup no matter the cost."



Give a Helping Hand

Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- 1: Acrylic paint
- 2: Painbrush
- 3: Adult garden gloves
- 4: Garden gloves that fit you
- 5: Permanent marker

What you do:

- 1: Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove.
- 2: If you have a younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color
- 3: Write your name(s) and the date
- 4: Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves
- 5: Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores



Noah's Carnival
Coming to Sidney UMC
June 1
11:30 - 2:30

The Youth Ministry Team will be hosting a carnival for the Sidney Community on June 1. Our hope is to have many families join us for a fun filled time as a way to get to know more of our neighbors while sharing Christ's love. In order for this to be a success we will need many volunteers that day to help with various games, food, bounce houses, face painting, ice cream, and more. We are in the early stages of planning and any help will be welcomed. If you can help by participating or donating, please contact Sharon Bassett.



United Methodist Women's June meeting will be a special occasion: Thurs the 13th at noon in Fellowship Hall for a luncheon, followed by a program by our former pastor, Barbara Green, about Susanna Wesley, mother of Methodism's founder, John Wesley. Some years before Barb's time as our pastor she did a series of talks here about outstanding women of our faith through the centuries. She studied these women's lives and brought them to dramatic and inspiring life. **All** interested women are **welcome**. Bring a casserole, salad or dessert to pass, or if that's hard--something easy from the store, and your own tableware. So we can plan seating and beverage amounts, please let us know if you're coming. Call the church office 563-1921 Mon-Fri 9:30-12:30 or leave a message, or call Kathy Shaw 563-2266. Hope to see you there!



Enjoy some summer-themed laughter while you lounge!

Seen on a church sign (and appropriate for grilling season): "God doesn't make mistakes."

Person approaching a shoreline: "Is this river any good for fish?"
Response: "It must be. I can't get any of them to leave it."

Q: Why do people go to church in the summer?

A: It's prayer-conditioned!

Q: Why was it so hot in the stadium after the game?

A: All the fans left.

Q: While hiking, how can you identify a dogwood tree?

A: By its bark.

Q: What do sheep have on sunny days?

A: A baa-baa-cue!



Congratulations Graduates

Congratulations to Jacob Cuozzo, recent SUNY graduate with a degree in Construction Management.

Congratulations to Natale Gregory, recent Perdue graduate with a degree in Veterinary Medicine.

Congratulations to William "Billy" Kozak, recent SUNY graduate with a degree in Business.

Congratulations to Hope VanBuren, recent SUNY graduate with a Pre-Med degree.

A word for graduates

Congratulations to the young members of our congregation who are graduating! No doubt they look forward to the next phase of their lives with excitement, anticipation and perhaps a little apprehension.

We hope these words, adapted from Phillips Brooks, will serve graduates well as they embark on their journeys:

"Do not pray for an easy life; pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God."
Published in: May 2008

A hidden graduation message

A college class was graduating on a hot and humid day. As the graduates walked across the platform and received their diplomas from the president, he smiled, shook their hands and said loudly, "Congratulations!" Then, in a much lower voice, one that was firm and could be heard only by the graduates, he would say, "Keep moving."

He was only trying to keep the line moving across the stage, but his words were good advice for a lifetime: "Keep moving." After every achievement — growing up, graduation, marriage, job promotion, even retirement — the best advice is, "Keep moving." Don't stop. Don't stagnate. There is more to life than you have found thus far. This is not the end; it is only the beginning. Keep moving.



Encourage
one another
and build up
each other....

1 Thessalonians 5:11, NRSV

An Encouraging Word

The Bible repeatedly “encourages” Christians to “encourage one another.” How can you tell when someone needs encouragement? The answer is easy, said Chick-fil-A founder Truett Cathy: if they’re breathing! He quipped, “I get a lot of encouragement, but I never got an overdose.”

Offering encouragement is an easy way to have a big impact. In fact, two esteemed Christian writers call encouragers angelic and godly. George MacDonald said, “If, instead of a gem or even a flower, we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give.” And G.K. Chesterton said, “If I can put one touch of rosy sunset into the life of any man or woman, I shall feel that I have worked with God.”

Who in your life might need an encouraging word today?



June Dates to Remember

- Pentecost, June 9, 2019
- Flag Day, June 14, 2019
- Trinity Sunday, June 16, 2019
- Father’s Day, June 16, 2019
- First day of summer, June 21, 2019



Perfect Order

By the time the summer solstice occurs, it feels as if the season has been in full swing for weeks. It's bittersweet that just when summer officially starts, the length of daylight begins decreasing. Before we're ready to let go of the season, summer marches toward fall, and then winter with the year's shortest day.

Yet that is our Creator's plan: "You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter" (Psalm 74:17, ESV). God fashioned the world to be beautiful, good and perfectly symmetrical. With concise order, he ordained seasons, rhythms, orbits and natural boundaries. As God's beloved children, we're blessed to enjoy the intricacies and patterns of this magnificent universe.

—MaryAnn Sundby



In "The Summer Day," Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Mary Oliver (1935-2019) captures the season profoundly as a time to pay attention, especially to the wonders of Creation; to let oneself be idle sometimes; and to let one's time of quiet rest, meandering through meadows and gazing at grasshoppers, be prayer.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields ...

Search online to read the entire work. Let it inspire you for a walk with God through one of these summer days.



The Master's Touch Chorale
in concert June 2, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. here at SUMC!

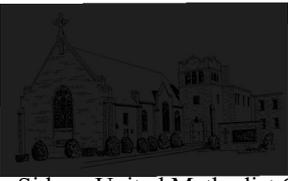
The Master's Touch Chorale is a choir of 40 dedicated Christian singers, from some 28 churches of 18 denominations. Our members are united by our common faith in **Jesus Christ** as Savior and Lord, and by His calling to spread **His Good News** in the ministry of music.

Founded on April 23, 1993, ***The Master's Touch Chorale*** is now in our twenty-seventh year of ministry under the musical direction of Warren Ottey, who also serves as Director of Music and Organist at The Episcopal Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Syracuse, and as Artistic Director of the ***CNY Voices*** choral ensemble. During its tenure of ministry, ***The Master's Touch*** has sung year around in countless churches and community events over a wide geographical area.

In December of 2002, ***The Master's Touch Chorale*** was invited to sing its Christmas program at **The White House**, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC, at a reception for the White House Staff and their families, and for some Congressmen, as well. ***The Master's Touch*** was invited back for a return engagement in December of 2004, to sing at a reception for the Armed Forces men and women who had recently returned from active duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2008, the ***Chorale*** accepted its third concert invitation from **The White House** and sang a Christmas program in the Grand Foyer on December 22nd. On the preceding evening, ***The Master's Touch*** sang its full Christmas concert to an overflow audience in the newly-dedicated sanctuary of Resurrection Lutheran Church, of Fredericksburg, VA.

The Master's Touch Chorale has been privileged to record and publish for sale three CD albums: ***Beyond the Manger: Christmas with the Master's Touch Chorale***, ***Sometimes I Hear God's Music***, featuring music of our non-holiday repertoire, and our just-released second Christmas album, ***Emmanuel: God with Us!*** The albums are on sale at all of our concerts. We anticipate the release of our fourth album, ***JEHOVAH RAPHA "I am the Lord, your Healer"*** in the very near future!

The Master's Touch Chorale is a faith ministry! Thus, we do not charge a fee for our concert appearances; but instead we give the members of our audiences the opportunity to help with our expenses through a free-will love offering at each concert. Featuring a menu of Christian music ranging from Beethoven to Bluegrass, ***The Master's Touch Chorale*** seeks to please the musical palate of every listener in every concert. Even more important is our desire to magnify our **Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior**, and to bring every member of our audiences closer to Him, so that each one may experience a deeper sense of **Christ's unconditional love, His forgiveness, His power to save and to heal, and His victory over sin and death!**



Sidney United Methodist Church
12 Liberty Street
Sidney, New York 13838