

The Sidney United Methodist Church

News-n-Views

Volume 2018 Issue 5

May 2018

May



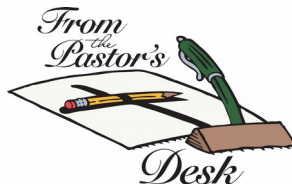
Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00am-12:00pm

Pastor's Office Hours:
Mondays
10:00a.m.-1:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Sunday morning
Worship time:
10:30 a.m.



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Several years ago, I owned a beautiful Golden Retriever named Bulldozer (because he was big and because he “bulldozed” his way through everything, including my heart). One year, Bulldozer became very ill, and there was eventually no option but to put him peacefully to sleep. When I had to say goodbye to my noble dog, I reflected on all that I had learned from a dog’s viewpoint, and I would like to share with you what I learned at that time in my life. It is a list or rules called “A Wise Dog’s Rules of Conduct.” They are all little lessons which Bulldozer loved to do as often as possible, and he certainly did his best to help me practice his canine lessons. I want to share them with you because they truly come from the heart. There are fifteen of these little lessons and I know that fifteen sounds like a lot. But remember that dogs speak in short sentences and they get right to the point! If fifteen still sounds like too many, here’s idea! Pretend you are a puppy! You see, these 15 “Rules of Conduct” were not rules which anyone could instantly expect a puppy to know. Likewise, God does not expect any of us to instantly know everything God wants us to know. When Bulldozer was a puppy, only 3 - 4 of the lessons made sense to him for awhile. Sometimes, on a given day, only 3 – 4 scripture verses make sense to us. The other lessons happen over time as we become closer to God (similar to the way the friendship grew between Bulldozer and me as Bulldozer matured into a wise, noble dog. So the advice from Bulldozer and me is to pick out two or three “rules” for now. But try to practice those 2 or 3 every day. In time, some of the other “Wise Dog Rules of Conduct” will come easily for you. I’m sure that at least 2 or 3 of them are lessons you will really enjoy! OK, here we go... lessons I learned from a gallant dog!....

1. Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride where you feel the wind in your face!
2. When loved ones come home or come to see you, always greet them with gusto!
3. When it’s in your best interest, practice obedience.
4. Run, romp, and play daily! Then take a nap, and stretch before rising.
5. Eat heartily and clean your dish.
6. Be loyal.
7. Never pretend to be something you’re not.
8. If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
9. When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.
10. On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
11. When you’re happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
12. No matter how often you’re scolded, don’t buy into the guilt thing and pout... run right back and make friends.
13. Delight in the simple joy of a long walk, and along the way, stop to smell the roses... and the grass and the trees!
14. Don’t go for a run without your I.D.
15. Make friends with everyone.

Continued...

I'll bet that many of us already practice some of these lessons which Bulldozer loved to do! I know that I especially enjoy #5: eat heartily and clean your dish! And remember my suggestion to pretend you are a puppy and start by practicing 2 or 3 of the lessons because no one expects a puppy to know all the rules. I believe God is like that with us. God knows us and He does not expect us to learn all the rules all at once. Just like we give a puppy the opportunities to learn simple rules such as "Sit", "Stay" and "Come", God gives us opportunities to learn the basics and then grow into nobleness and graciousness. There are times when God wants us to sit still and listen to him. During the bumpy times in life, God wants us to "stay the course" and trust Him. Then there are the wonderful moments when, no matter where we are or how limited we may feel, God says, "Come, and be a disciple for me." Being a disciple for God may be as easy as drinking water and lying under a shady tree on a hot day (Rule #10). After all, God wants us to take care of our bodies. Being a disciple also happens when we greet a loved one with gusto (Rule #2) and when we make friends with everyone in the neighborhood (#15). "A Wise Dog's Rules of Conduct" are actually celebrations of the simple joys of life. Sometimes, we just need to be like our pets--- relish in the simple pleasures, the marvelous gifts from God.

Please pray with me.

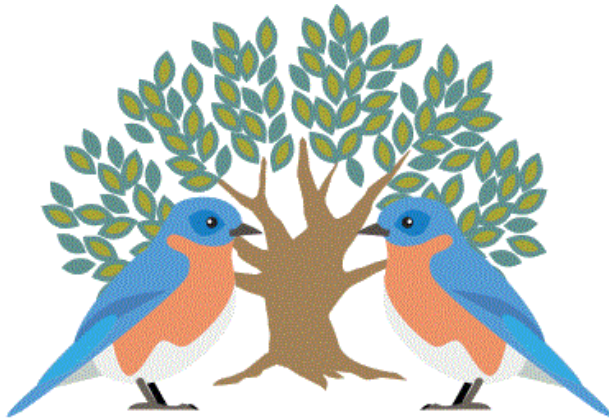
Dear God,

Help us to do our best loyally and cheerfully.

Help us to remember that the best way to serve you is to believe in ourselves and others.

Teach us again to love wholeheartedly the simple joys you have given us, and thank you for giving us so many simple joys.

Amen.



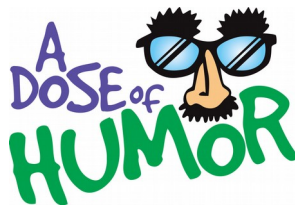


Lydia Crafts Update: Going forward, there will be a change in time for Lydia Crafts meetings. Meetings will now be at 2:30 on Tuesdays in the craft room. All are welcome to help.

UMW's May meeting will take place Thursday May 10 in the Fellowship Hall at 1pm for a business meeting, followed at 1:45 with a talk by Vincent Spruill, Director of the Tri-Town Youth Club, which is now housed in our church. All are welcome to come and hear Vince. Refreshments will be served by Kathy Shaw

The Mothers Day service on Sunday May 13 will be conducted by members of the United Methodist Women.

Kathy Shaw is receiving requests for the Prayer Chain in person or at 563-2266. All requests are kept as confidential, unless instructed otherwise by the person requesting prayer, or unless the matter is already generally known.



Just for pun!

- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- If you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- The worker who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.



Heart Light

This Mother's Day, make a bright gift for someone special in your life.

What you need:

Scissors, Cardstock, Tape, Mason jar, Primer paint, Acrylic paint (3 colors), Paintbrushes, Battery operated tea light, Paper and pen, Hole punch, Twine

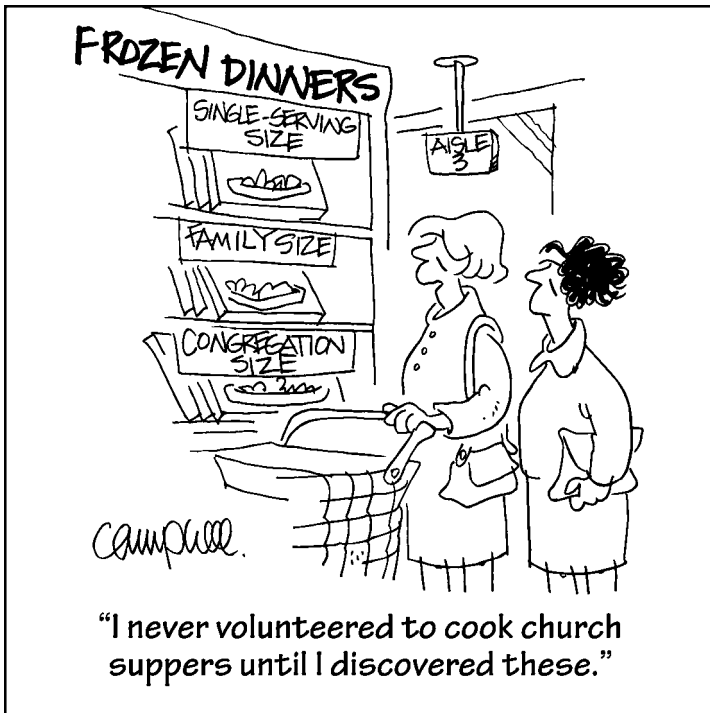
What you do:

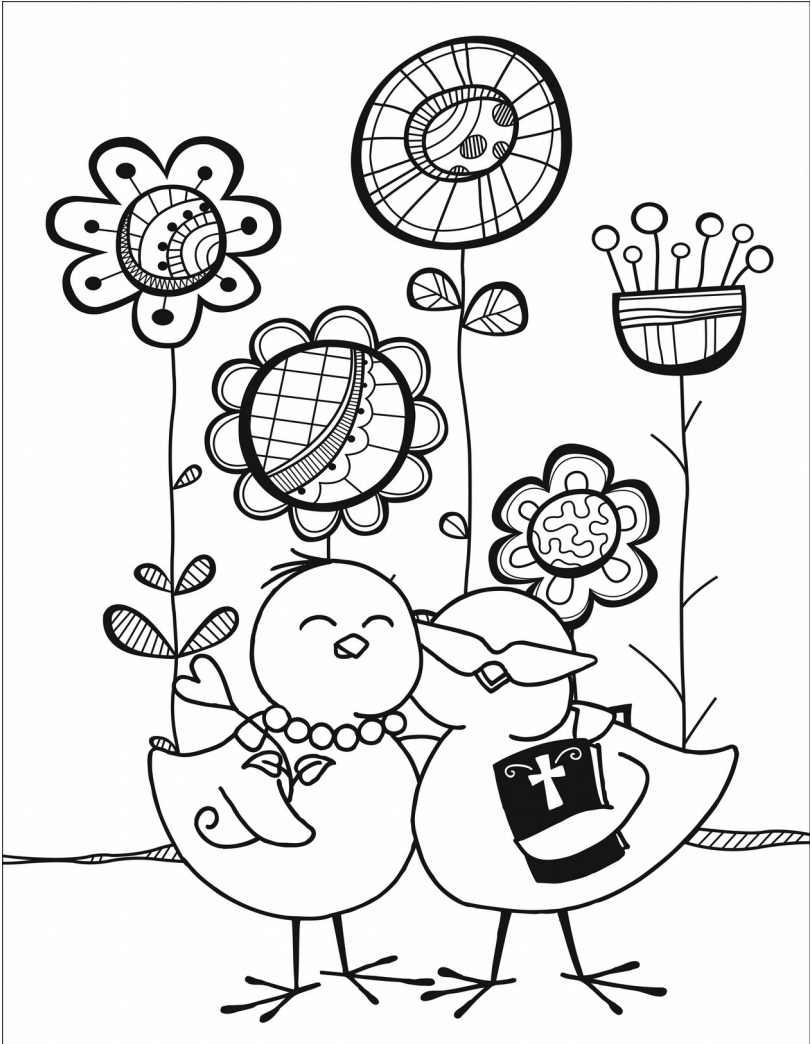
- 1: Cut out two cardstock hearts and tape them to the jar sides, near the bottom.
- 2: Paint the entire jar with primer paint. Let dry.
- 3: Paint splotches of acrylic paint over the primer. Let dry. Remove the heart shapes.
- 4: Place the tea light in the jar.
- 5: Write a note that says, "Mom, you're the light of my life! Punch a hole in one corner of the note, thread twine through the hole and tie the note around the jar's neck.



May 2018 Dates to Remember

- National Day of Prayer, May 3, 2018
- Ascension, May 10, 2018
- Mother's Day, May 13, 2018
- Armed Forces Day, May 19, 2018
- Pentecost, May 20, 2018
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 21, 2018
- Trinity Sunday, May 27, 2018
- Memorial Day, May 28, 2018





Lay Leader's Letter

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

April is the month of rebirth. It is a month that gives new life to the dead and loss of the past year of winter and loss of family and friends. Now with April here and the trees are now giving birth to new leaves and then you have trees that will bring forth the beautiful flowers. Then you hear the singing of the new birds, and the waterfalls that have been frozen all winter long, are now awake and running briskly down the mountain sides.

The flowers are also showing rebirth, since they have been asleep all winter long. We are starting to see yellow, purple, blue, and many other colors that remind us that God created the flowers of many colors to represent the rainbow that we see after the first spring storm for the season.

Genesis 1:1-19:38 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ... The sun is now appearing in the skies each and everyday, to give us heads up that winter is finally over and that now the season of planting the crops can begin to give us new birth of crops to feed our families and neighbors, and the animals that God has blessed us with.

As we go from April into May, with the celebration of Mothers; who have given birth to their children to raise them to love the season of rebirth. Mothers teach their children that God gave animals so they can give children baby animals to play with and watch them grow.

Psalms 8:1-9 To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. ...

May is also the month that we honor mothers, for God created them to love his baby angels; and to teach and raise them up to follow the laws of the Lord. If we did not have the blessing of having mothers to teach how to love, how to be a human here on earth then this world would be world of total wonderment of how to live. Psalm 113:9 He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

John 19:26-27 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Dear Heavenly Father, we want to thank you for the birth of our heavens and our earth. Father we are Honored that you created the Earth for us to take care of for you. Even though we have not been doing our best for your earth, you Father never condemn us. Father thank you for your continued love and for blessing us with mothers who teach us how to take and make us promise to take care of your earth. Father we also thank you for our mothers here on this Mother's Day. Help us Father in heaven to give our love and appreciation to our mothers on this special day we call Mother's Day. Thank you for both the earth you created for us and for the creation of our Mother's. In Jesus' name we pray Amen!

Lay Leader, Echo Adams

Restart Your Heart

Pain and loss are inescapable on this earth; fortunately, the Great Physician specializes in fixing hearts. Our participation is vital to recovery, though, as Danny Gokey sings in "Tell Your Heart to Beat Again."

The song was inspired by a pastor asking to watch a cardiac surgeon — one of his congregants — in action. When the doctor attempted to restart the patient's heart after repairing it, the organ wouldn't cooperate. The surgeon knelt to speak to his patient: "We have fixed your heart. We have repaired it. There is nothing wrong with your heart. If you can hear me, I need you to tell your heart to beat again." And it did — because she did.

"You can get back up again," says Gokey, who faced loss when his first wife died. "You can move forward with your life, and you don't have to walk with a limp." God has fixed our hearts, Gokey says, but we need to recognize that — and begin to hope again.

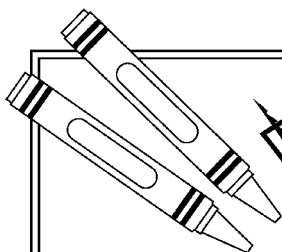


Memorial Flower Fund

Spring is here and its time for our Annual Memorial Flower Fund.

With your donation include the name in whose memory you wish to donate and whom it is given by. The resulting list will be included in the weekly materials the end of May or start of June.

Thank you! Thanks to your donations, we are able to have alter flowers through the year.



PUZZLE

WORTHY OF RESPECT

On Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms and everything they do for us. How does God tell us to treat our moms?

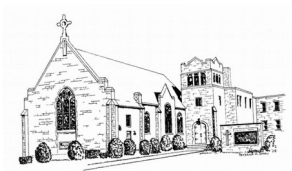


Directions: Using the key below, fill in the blanks to complete Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV.

A	C	D	M*	N*	O*
E	F	G	P*	R*	S*
H	I	L	T*	U*	Y*

“ _____ your _____
 _____ * * * *
 and your _____ , _____
 _____ * * * *
 the _____ your _____ has
 _____ * * * *
 _____ * * * *
 _____ 5:16, NIV
 _____ * * * * * * * *

Answer: "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you." Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV



Sidney United Methodist Church
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Sidney, New York 13838