# Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

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What makes us uniquely Methodist and why should it matter?

## Our Social Heritage and Social Witness (Part 1)

Following both the example and teachings of Jesus, we believe that God calls us to love and serve others around the world in His name. Since God first stirred the hearts of John and Charles Wesley to feed the hungry, visit those in prison, oppose slavery, and care for those less fortunate, Methodists have believed in meeting people at their point of need and offering them Jesus. We are convinced that faith, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead (James 2:17) and that, as Jesus reminded us when we do not do what is needed to care for the least of our sisters and brothers, we likewise have not done so for Christ either (Matthew 25:45)...As a global church, our Social Witness represents a consensus vision transcending cultures of what it means to be faithful disciples in a world that remains in rebellion against its Creator, wracked by violence and unfettered greed. It is a summons to prayerfully consider how to "do good" and "do no harm" to all as we put our faith into practice.

- 1. We believe that all persons irrespective of their station or circumstances in life have been made in the image of God and must be treated with dignity, justice, and respect. We denounce as sin racism, sexism, and other expressions that unjustly discriminate against any person (Genesis 1-2, Deuteronomy 16:19-20, Luke 11:42, 19:9, Colossians 3:11).
- 2. We believe that life is a holy gift of God whose beginnings and endings are set by God, and that it is the particular duty of believers to protect those who may be powerless to protect themselves, including the unborn, those with disabilities or serious illness, and the aged (Genesis 2:7, Leviticus 19:32, Jeremiah 1:5, Luke 1:41-44).
- 3. The sacredness of all life compels us to resist the practice of abortion except in the cases of tragic conflicts of life against life when the well-being of the mother and the child are at stake. We do not accept abortion as a means of birth control or gender selection, and we call upon all Christians as disciples of the Lord of Life to prayerfully consider how we can support those women facing unintended pregnancies without adequate care, counsel, or resources (Exodus 22:23-23, Psalm 139:13-16, James 1:27).

We will continue with this statement of our Social Witness in next month's newsletter. If you can't wait, view the remaining statements at <a href="https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/">https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/</a>.

Living On Purpose, Pastor Ron



Family Bible Week is right around the corner! Mark your calendars for August 4-8 from 6-8 pm! Starts Sunday evening, August 4th with a Kick Off Pizza Party for Families and Servants.

We have reimagined our traditional VBS to follow the Holy Spirit's prompting. Heritage's mission is the theme! We will be teaching children ages 4 years through rising 6th graders how to Know Jesus, Follow Jesus and Share Jesus!! The Servants who are already on board with this Adventure are excited to reach families in our Ligonier Valley School District and Pastor Ron is offering a "Parenting in Today's World" class during the same time.

We imagine parents/guardians staying with their children during our opening Worship Time and maybe even Storytime to learn with their children so they can reinforce the teaching throughout the week. When the children move into their Prayer Time and Study/Review Time, parents will be with the Pastor to get encouragement from him and each other.

A Mission related craft will be made each day and given to five different Mission groups that Heritage already supports. Children can share the way Jesus asked us to!

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The Servant's Team could use several more of what I'm calling "Grandparent Mentors." Their jobs will be to be with the children in all sessions but the emphasis will be to help answer questions around the study, complete review worksheets and pray with and for the families. Please consider gifting your time and mostly your years of wisdom to these children, who are school aged elementary and just learning more in depth how to Know, Follow and Share Jesus. We pray to have one adult mentor per 2-3 children.

This is a wonderful opportunity to use all of our individual giftings for the children of the Acts (early church) teaching. We get to bless each other as a large "Small Group" around the Commandments of Matthew 22:36-40... "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart" and" love thy neighbor as thyself." Please offer yourself up to our team for this week or part thereof and pray for the families to respond.

Flyers are available to be given to your neighbors and friends. Please pick up some and keep in your purse, car, etc. as God surely will give you opportunities to hand them out!!! Remember: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." Matthew 9:37. Let us change that today.

Contact the office or see Ken Orme or Susan Dominick—come bless each other, together!

#### THURSDAY NIGHT MARKETS

The sanctuary & Serrv Shop will be open during the Thursday Night Markets held on July 18<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm. If you can help out with greeting visitors to our sanctuary for an hour or two, or helping out in the Serrv Shop, please sign up on the bulletin board. For questions, contact Susan Dominick.

#### SANDWICH & SALAD LUNCHEON JULY 20TH

The Outreach Committee will be serving a second "Sandwich & Salad Luncheon" on Saturday, July 20 from 11AM – 2 PM. Donations of pies, pretzel salads and help are needed. Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board. Everyone is encouraged to stop at the church for lunch while browsing the activities around the Diamond.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH WILL CONTINUE through July 28<sup>th</sup>. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help and contact Ellen Yeskey for more information at meezhy@hotmail.com.

**SAVE THE DATE! ALL CHURCH PICNIC AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup> 1 pm at the Flax Scutching**Grounds. More details to come.

Report on Allegheny West Annual Conference May 22-25, Mt. Vernon, OH, at Nazarene University from Lay Delegate, Susan Dominick.

First off—I thank Heritage for allowing me to represent our church at the 2024 Conference. What an amazingly joyful time was had after so many harder past Conferences. I strongly recommend that all church members consider how to attend the Conference June 18-21, 2025. Let's talk it over!

Building Together was the theme as all of Ohio and part of PA came to celebrate the Holy Spirit's movement in this new expression of Methodism called Global Methodists. Approximately 900 GMC members, clergy, laity and servant volunteers came to worship the Lord, make several decisions on the direction of the AWAC and be instructed/taught on how Nehemiah rebuilt the temple. I could go on and on about so much that we learned and experienced but suffice to say, "The Holy Spirit was tangibly present in all aspects of the Conference. Praise God!"

We are in good hands! Hands of Servants who know the Bible is true, accurate and uncompromising. Leaders who are accountable first to our Lord, then to each other and to the local church. Heritage's voice on matters that concern us will and is being heard. As we rebuild who we are in local ministry we will be supported and highly encouraged.

President Jeff Greenway and Bishop Mark Webb ordained approximately 40 new elders/ deacons and the AC officially came into partnership with the Kenya Conference. More on that in upcoming newsletters, but we raised over \$221,000 to support our brothers and sisters ordain 50 pastors this year! The goal was \$150,000 so the Lord overly provided like is his usual way. Praise God!

I would be happy to speak more in depth at any small group, committee meeting or individually. Just let me know. 724-672-1156. A full report will be given to Council at the July 25th meeting.

September 2024 in Costa Rico is the first General Conference of the Worldwide GMC. Please pray for delegates, families and the work the Lord has laid out before them.

### July S.O.A.P. Readings

Do you have a regular practice of reading your Bible? While it's challenging, reading the Bible regularly helps us know God better, live a more fulfilling life, know God's will, and obey him. If you don't have a regular Bible reading plan, you're invited to use this SOAP process.

SOAP is an abbreviation for Scripture, Observation, Application, and Prayer. Read the passages below and answer the following questions. You'll need your Bible, a journal/notebook, and a pen.

Scripture – which passage am I reading?
Observation – what stands out to me in this passage?
Application – how will I apply these truths to my life?
Prayer – what is my prayer as it relates to this?

July 1	Revelation 1:1-3
July 2	Revelation 1:4-8
July 3	Revelation 1:9-11
July 4	Revelation 1:12-17
July 5	Revelation 1:18-20
July 6	Revelation 2:1-7
July 7	Revelation 2:8-11
July 8	Revelation 2:12-17
July 9	Revelation 2:18-29
July 10	Revelation 3:1-6
July 11	Revelation 3:7-13
July 12	Revelation 3:14-22
July 13	Revelation 4:1-6
July 14	Revelation 4:7-11
July 15	Isaiah 6:1-8
July 16	Daniel 3:1-7
July 17	Daniel 3:8-15
July 18	Daniel 3:16-18
July 19	Daniel 3:19-25
July 20	Daniel 3:26-30
July 21	Daniel 6:1-5
July 22	Daniel 6:6-10
July 23	Daniel 6:11-15
July 24	Daniel 6:16-20
July 25	Daniel 6:21-24
July 26	Daniel 6:25-28
July 27	Matthew 24:1-8
July 28	Matthew 24:9-21
July 29	Matthew 24:22-35
July 30	Matthew 24:36-42
July 31	Matthew 24:43-51

#### **SERRV SHOP SERVANTS NEEDED!**

If you can spare a few hours to help out in the shop on a Saturday (10 am - 1 pm or 1-4 pm), please sign up on the bulletin board. We would also love to have the shop open for the Thursday Night Markets, so if you can help on those evenings, please see the Thursday Night Market signup sheet also located on the bulletin board.

Thank you for your support! 569 diapers were collected during our Moms Helping Moms Diaper Drive in May. The collection was taken to the Mount Pleasant Diaper Bank for distribution.



Thank you for supporting the Outreach Committee's "Sandwich & Salad Luncheon" on June 1. 28 members and/or friends helped and/or donated supplies for the luncheon. Together we raised \$1,519 for our mission budget.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Office Closed	5 Office Closed	6 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus
7 Holy Communion 10:45 am Children's Church	8	9	10 6 pm Disciple- ship Planning Mtg. in Multipurpose Rm.	11	12	136 pm Saturday Night Service: Pas- tor Ron w/music by Wayne Shaffer Panama Mission Trip through July 21st
14 10:45 am Children's Church	15	16	17	18 1 pm Linus Blanket Workday in Fellowship Hall 5-8 pm Sanctuary Open for Thursday Night Market	19 1 pm Newsletter Deadline	20 11 am-2 pm Summer in Ligonier Luncheon 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Bill Demp- sey
21 10:45 am Children's Church	22	23	24	25 6 pm Church Council Mtg. in Lounge	26	276 pm Saturday Night Service: Pas- tor Ron
28 10:45 am Last Children's Church	29	30 6 pm VBS Planning Mtg. in Lounge	31 5 pm Trustees Mtg. in Lounge		1st Share	irthdays on Shaffer
		Sunday 8 10 Weds 8 Friday 10 8	July An 29 <sup>th</sup> Don & 30 & 10:45 am Wor :45 am. Children's C :00 pm AA Mtg. in F :00 am The Chosen :00 pm AA Mtg. in F :00 pm Saturday Nig	rship Services Church ellowship Hall Book Study ellowship Hall	Emily Seba 8th Betty Riley 9th Tracy 11th Estel 13 <sup>th</sup> Jim K 13 <sup>th</sup> Marie 13th Kelly 15th Ken C 17th Ryan 18th Erin E Maur 22nd Heler 23 <sup>rd</sup> Claire 28th Risa 28 <sup>th</sup> Isaac 29th Craig 30 <sup>th</sup> Jase	Holzer Hockenberry