



THE UPWARD WAY!!!!

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ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor's News Message

PASTOR 'S CORNER

Sitting at the desk, sliding the keyboard a little closer, pausing to collect my thoughts, I closed my eyes and whispered a little prayer. "Dear Jesus, what do you want me to tell the people?" I sat and waited, almost falling asleep. Then I became lost in a world that's difficult to describe. For the next few minutes I was all alone and I was seated in a stadium style seat. Far in front of me was a huge white screen and there was movement in the background. As I watched, scenes began drifting in and out. At first each scene looked like little spots in the distance but as they came closer and closer they took shape. I caught myself staring as each approached, wondering what they would be.

First I saw what appeared to be strangely dressed men and women. They were brave and yet afraid at the same time. I watched as they climbed aboard an ancient ship with huge sails, waving goodbye to friends on the shore. A little time passed and then I saw them on that raggedy old ship surrounded by water. They were wondering if they had made the right choice. Comforting each other, they promised to look out for each other. I saw them go ashore and they were wondering how safe they really were.

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July Calendar

Submit items for newsletter VIA email @ mossor@hotmail.com

1 Joey Lamp
Richard Hyde
Judith Ditlow
2 Denver Mullenix
3 Carol Shrader
6 Steve Worden
Mykayla Garrett
Ray Richards
11 DD Frum

12 Regan Stout
14 Nancy Curry
Shaylee Bishop
18 Everett
Schneider
19 Grady Richards
23 Jennifer Collins
Madison Hinzman
24 Pam Morton :)

25 Tim Webber
Mike Winser
28 Mary Ellen
Beall
Barbara Laugh
29 Larry Beall
30 Steve Wells
31 Donna Rae
Mullenix

July Birthdays



PASTOR'S CORNER—Continued from Page 1.....

As those scenes faded I waited for more but it was another era when they came. There were people gathered at the water's edge and in their strange English brogue they were talking about taxes and tea. Trouble was brewing and I got the impression it would soon be there. For the longest time there appeared to be just a white dot on that dark screen in front of me. It hung there, as if to accent what was coming. All at once that dot quickly moved forward taking form. There were thousands of Red Coats and they were in battle with poorly clad pilgrims who wanted nothing more than freedom. Battle after battle flashed across the screen and then it stopped as quickly as it began. The next scene was the Constitution of the United States. I read for as long as I could but all went dark before I finished.

Something about the screen seemed to say, "Wait, there's more." By now I had watched so much battle that I hurt for the struggling pilgrims. They had fought at such a cost for their freedom. While pondering about their lives, I was suddenly jolted when movement occurred on the screen again. I waited with anxious anticipation for the next picture to take shape. What I saw was so hard to believe. That little band of pilgrims was not so little anymore and they were fighting each other. Two groups had developed. Each wanted power over the other. Somewhere in the conflict was a race of people, hoping to be free. At times it looked like the battle would never end, but it did. And when it was over there was freedom for all.

Without much pause I was given a view of World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and various other battles. There seemed to always be an element looking for that which is the desire of every heart, freedom.

The pictures stopped coming and I stood to leave. A voice commanded, "Wait." I looked and two hands appeared on the screen. I did not need to ask whose hands they were for they were nail scared hands. A voice said, "I fought a battle too. I did it for you. You want to know what to tell the people? Tell them I fought their fight, I gained their freedom. Satan had them bound but I defeated him. All they need to do is come and receive the freedom I have for them."

Let's celebrate our country's freedom but let's remember the one who really sets us free!

Pastor John Frum

Operation Christmas Child —

During the month of July we will collect money for shipping and hard candy and suckers. There is a collection box in the choir room in which you can place the candy. If you choose to donate money, you can put it in the offering plate on Sundays, and mark your check or envelope "**Operation Christmas Child**" or "**Shoebboxes.**" You can also either give the money to Sara Summers or to Carol in the office. Shipping costs for the shoeboxes are **\$7.00** per box, so we can really use your monetary donations.

Operation Christmas Child was the mission project for the children attending Vacation Bible School this past week. The kids brought many items for the shoeboxes and placed them on the altar. They are there this morning as an offering to our loving and wonderful God. Thanks for helping, VBS kids!

And thank you, congregation of St. Luke's, for your continued prayers and generous support for this mission project. It is a way our children can reach out to other children all over the world, spreading God's love and the Good News of Jesus Christ without ever leaving our own hometown.

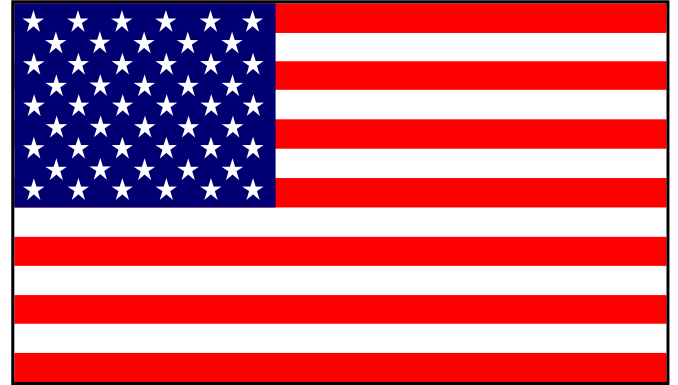
One flag,

one land,

one heart,

one hand,

One Nation evermore!



Lay Member Delegate Report on Annual Conference 2011

It was my honor and privilege to again serve you as your Delegate to Annual Conference. In addition to my serving, Sara Summers also served as an “equalization delegate”. Equalization delegates are appointed in order to keep the number of voting members of the laity equal to the number of voting members of the clergy.

Annual Conference is usually great. The 2011 Annual Conference seemed a little less than great. However, it was still very, very good. It just somehow wasn't up to the high standard set by the other half dozen or so Annual Conferences we have attended. In large part, the 2011 conference was less than memorable due to the necessity of having to elect representatives to General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference for 2012. The clergy elect five delegates, plus alternates, and the laity elects a like amount. The rules for the election seemed designed to guarantee that no one is elected. All the elders are automatically on the clergy ballot and it takes a majority vote to get elected. With so large a slate of candidates, most votes yield no one with a majority. So there is vote after vote after vote. I think it took twelve ballots to elect the five clergy representatives to General Conference. Then the voting started over for the alternates, and then once that was done, voting started for representative for Jurisdictional Conference and alternates. I lost track of how many ballots that took. The Bishop finally held the clergy in conference before lunch on the final day and would not let them go until they elected a slate. The Laity vote went a little quicker. The laity started with twenty-seven nominees for fourteen positions. So the math works a little better in reaching a majority. The Laity finished their elections a day earlier than the clergy. This whole process, while necessary, was tedious and consumed most of the time of the conference.

Bishop Lyght was ill and could not attend. We are blessed in West Virginia to have retired Bishop William Boyd Grove living in Charleston. He presided over Conference with grace, dignity, aplomb, and occasional humor.

As usual there was some exceptional preaching. Dr. Doug Anderson spoke on Thursday morning. His topic was on evangelism and how the church is stagnated in a mindset of ministering to those who are already in church. His church does not refer to their gatherings as a “church service” or “worship service”. They feel those labels imply that attendance for an hour or so on Sunday morning is somehow “service” to God and that most people think they have done their duty by attending. He encouraged a living faith, where service and outreach is ongoing and ever present. He suggested churches need to move with purpose, rather than conceding to the preferences of a few. He stated we need to work together in that purpose. And he pointed out that a lot of churches have energy (which is random and unharnessed) but never convert that energy to power. He tried to condense a weekend long seminar into an hour and a half. He managed to do that, but there was a lot to take in.

Continued Page 5....Conference

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Bishop Mary Ann Swenson (from the Los Angeles Episcopal Area) spoke at the Memorial Service for those clergy who died in the past year. She led in Holy Communion. The Memorial Service is always moving. Bishop Swenson exudes the love of Christ. She simply beams with enthusiasm. She spoke again on Friday evening at the ordination service, where our own Barbara Bartz Rogerson was ordained. A reception followed.

On Saturday morning the Volunteers in Mission ministry was recognized. Those who are committed to mission trips this year processed in to the chapel carrying banners representing the flags of the various countries to be visited. Denese Lamp was among those who carried the flags. Sara, Sam, and I joined Denese and her husband, Dave, at a luncheon sponsored by Tom Clark and the Volunteers in Mission.

The business of Saturday afternoon was to announce the appointment of Clergy for 2011/2012. As most of you know, Pastor John Frum was reappointed to St. Luke's and for that we are thankful. In case anyone is curious, John Lowther was also reappointed to the Grantsville charge. Mark McCutcheon had re-entered that pastoral ministry last year. He was reappointed to the Wilson town charge. Wilson town is on Route 20, south of Buckhannon.

The Reverend Tyrone Gordon closed the Conference with a highly energetic sermon focused on evangelism. He reminded us again and again that we don't need committee approval to speak out for Christ.

As for business affecting the local church, there was good news. First, the health insurance rates stay the same for the third year in a row. Second, the base salaries for Pastors were increased by only \$300 per year. That increase doesn't affect St. Luke's insofar as we have historically been well above the base salary.

Even a less than great Annual Conference is still a very good experience. Pastor John and D. D., Russell and Barbara, Sara and Sam could each tell you things about Conference. I think Denese and Dave Lamp enjoyed their couple of hours there as well. I would encourage anyone to attend. I also want it to be known that I do not feel entitled to be your permanent Lay Delegate to Conference. I appreciate going and enjoy the experience, but would gladly step aside if anyone feels called to be the Lay Delegate. The time for nominations is fast approaching and you could talk to Pastor John about that.

Yours Faithfully,

Jonathan Summers

This is totally **AMAZING** be sure to read it. Talk about clever and to the point!!! Never heard it put quite like this before. The Maker of all human beings (**GOD**) is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart.

This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed "Sub-sequential Internal Non-Morality," or more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some of the symptoms include:

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior
6. Depression or confusion in the mental component
7. Fearfulness
8. Idolatry
9. Rebellion

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect. The Repair Technician, JESUS, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required. The number to call for repair in all areas is: P-R-A-Y-E-R. Once connected, please upload your burden of SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure. Next, download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component.

No matter how big or small the SIN defect is, Jesus will replace it with:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Patience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness
8. Gentleness
9. Self control

Please see the operating manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on **Jesus**.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility. Thank you for your attention!

- GOD

P.S. Please assist where possible by notifying others of this important recall notice, and you may contact the Father any time by 'Knee mail'!

Because He Lives!



JULY 2011 CALENDER

harrisvillestlukes1@zoominternet.net

Jul 2011 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 7:45am - UM Men 3pm - RC Parish 4:30pm - NursIno	27 6pm - VBS	28	29 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	30 7am - Bible Studv	1	2
3	4 	5 7pm - Trustee Meet	6 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	7 7am - Bible Studv	8	9
10 7pm - Admin Council	11	12	13 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	14 7am - Bible Studv	15	16
17	18 7pm - Coop. Parish	19	20 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	21 7am - Bible Studv	22	23
24 7:45am - UMM 4:30pm - NursIno	25	26	27 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	28 7am - Bible Studv	29 Ellenboro Car Show	30
31	1	2 7pm - Trustees Meet	3 11:30am - Sr. Lunch	4 7am - Bible Studv	5	6