JULY 2017

Need a chuckle??....

"**A couple** went to a marriage counselor. The woman said the problem is her husband, who thinks and breathes sports all year round. "You're exaggerating, dear; I'm not that bad," said the hubby. "Yes, you are!" she shouted. "Wait a minute, folks," the counselor said, "Let's start with some info for me. First, how long have you been married? "The husband said, "40 seasons!" –via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft Dover, DE

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"**Through the ages**, men have been puzzled why their wives, who accept them just as they are before they get married, begin to try to change their behavior and lifestyle once their vows have been exchanged.

"A social scientist finally solved this mystery with this simple explanation: When the bride and her father start to walk slowly down the long church aisle, she sees the altar at the end and hears the choir singing a hymn. Her brain is mesmerized by these three perceptions: aisle, altar, hymn... aisle, altar, and hymn. Finally, when she stops beside the groom, she smiles sweetly and keeps saying to herself: "I'll alter him!" –via Rev. Harry Mahoney

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Signs ☺

Sign outside a Dothan (AL) Baptist Church:
"A clean conscience makes a soft pillow." —via Charles Garrett

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Sign outside Countryside Christian Church, Leawood, KS:
"Noah should have swatted the two mosquitoes."—via G. Taylor Hess Mission, KS

- -

Sign outside Broad St. United Methodist Church in Burlington, NJ:
"Too hot to keep changing the sign. Sin bad. Jesus good. Details inside."

- -

"Remember, whoever you marry you'll be stuck with, I mean blessed with, for eternity."

UPCOMING EVENTS

For All

Saturday, Sunday, July 8, 9 – Tree Town Festival – Forest (please sign up for the face painting)

Saturday, July 15 – Wharton Festival (please sign up for the face painting)

Sunday, July 16 - Ellis Lake Service, 10:30 a.m., bring your favorite yard game, lawn chair and side dish. There will also be swimming and fellowship!

Old Mission Preaching Schedule

July

2 Rev Doug Pummell, Hardin/Wyandot Charge (JSUMC, Forest & Wharton UMC)

9 Chief Janith English, Chief of Wyandots-Kansas

16 Rev Soo-Hea Kim Park, Harpster UMC

23 Grand Chief Ted Roll of Anderdon Nation

Forest

Sunday, July 9 – morning worship at Wharton UMC, 9 am
– *Church in the Park* at the Tree Town Festival, 10:30 am (No regular morning worship)

Monday, July 10 – Leadership Team meeting, 6 pm

Monday through Friday, July 10-14 – Forest Community Vacation Bible School, 6-8:15 pm

Sunday, July 16 – Early worship service @ 9 am; special worship at Ellis Lake, 10:30 am

Wednesday, July 19 – USDA delivery, 10:30 am

Monday, July 24 – Food Pantry: preparation 9 am; servicing 1-3 pm

John Stewart

Wednesday, June 28 – Red Cross 12:30 – 5:30 p.m.

July 2 – 8 – Youth Mission Trip (keep them in your prayers)

July 31st – August 11th – Item drop off - FLC

August 17-19 – Rummage Sale (more details to come)

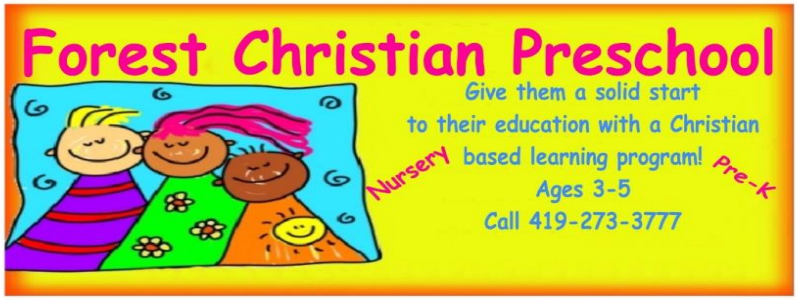
Wharton

Sunday, July 9 – morning worship 9am
– *Church in the Park* at the Tree Town Festival, 10:30 am

Sunday, July 16 – Early worship service @ 9 am, FUMC; special worship at Ellis Lake, 10:30 am

Forest
Community Vacation Bible School

Forest United Methodist Church
111 East Dixon Street, Forest, OH
VBS: July 10-14, 2017
6 pm-8:15 pm
For more information: 419-273-3148



Forest Christian Preschool is still accepting students for the 2017-2018 school year.

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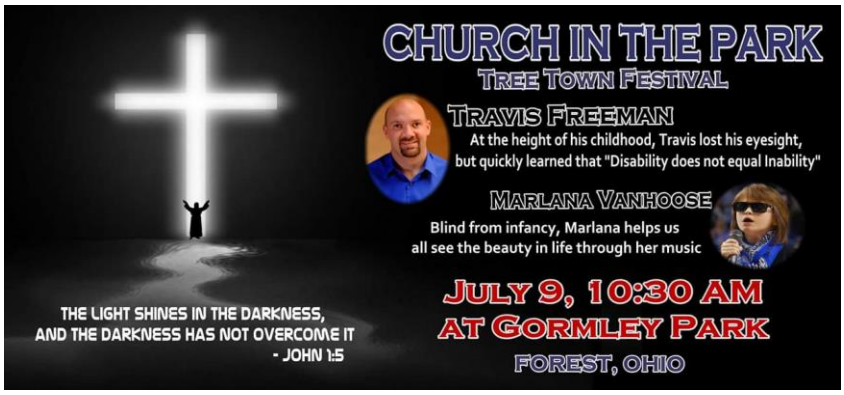

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5 Day Club - CEF

August 1st – August 5th
10 – 11 am
Kids age 5-12
At Cathy Morris' home, 501 S. Warner St., Forest, OH
Questions: 419-273-2378

"Wouldn't it be better to retire from your work NOW, Daddy, while you can still play with us?" **from** ***JoyfulNoiseletter.com***

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Forest Chicken BBQ – A Success!

Thank you ☺

Annual Conference Report……2017

By Alice Fay

I want to report on the West Ohio United Methodist Annual Conference for 2017. I was a voting Lay Member for our Charge at Lakeside, Ohio on June 4-7, held at Lakeside, Ohio. Other Lay voting members were Betsy Bowen, Carol Minehart, Stan Seabert, Mike Kin and Kathy Kin in her Lay Pastor position. Sue Pummell also served as a delegate. Pastors attending were Pastors Brian, Doug and Bob.

The prominent theme for this year was that "We Are the Light" and we need to be bold and not afraid to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Speaker, Dr. Elaine Heath said God is doing a new thing, a new Reformation, unlike the previous. "We are in a pruning process." She holds Dinner Church in her home on a regular basis. "People will come who normally don't come to church." We heard that there are seven Dinner Churches in the Dayton, Cincinnati area.

A new campaign talked about was "Light the Way." The five year campaign is about starting new churches and renewing existing ones. This was the controversial sexual issue with wording that would allow everyone to be instated as leaders of the church. Please ask to see the Book of Reports on pages 17, 48, 49. A hand vote passed. "We are called to come together to plant new churches and to nurture congregational vitality to reach new people of all ages and life circumstances and to connect them with Jesus Christ." (2016 Missional Report, pg. 17) the General Conference passed this down as a constitutional amendment for all conferences to vote on. Locals will not know the outcome until 2019 when a special session of the General Conference will be held. It will take 2/3 vote for it to pass.

A lot of time with pro and con discussion was held on a recommendation entitled, "We Are God's Children." We had paper ballots for this. This had to do with the conference asking members to call on U.S. Leaders to cease all arrests, detainment and deportation of illegal immigration; not place restrictions on immigration and to uphold Sanctuary status.

Our Bishop Palmer ask us to move forward without fear. "There are 1020 congregations in West Ohio and we should keep in mind that the "Church is not about us. The churches remain for two reasons: to glorify God in Jesus and to make new disciples, everything else is just decoration."

There were so many other things said and done at the Conference. I'll let other Lay voting members give you more information in their reports.

Newcomer to the West Ohio Conference

This was my first time at the West Ohio Annual Conference. I went up on Tuesday, the only day that I could go. It was a great time listening to Bishop Palmer, such a dynamic speaker, and the worship service and music. Dr. Elaine Heath and Bishop Malone were very inspirational. It was good to see the inner workings of the church, the voting process and the ordination of preachers, deacons and elders. A special thank you to Alice Fay for guiding me around Hoover Auditorium. I hope to go to the whole conference next year.

Stanley W. Seabert

WEST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017

-By Betsy Bowen

Opening Worship

"God is with us,"

"Be not afraid!"

Worshipping at Annual Conference is an emotional experience. Sunday night started out with Opening worship in Hoover Auditorium. We gathered in the Auditorium at 7:30 pm to the sound of bells. The Church of the Messiah UMC, youth choir and Jubilation Ringers performed brilliantly. They were followed by worship music from Chuck Bell and the Praise Band. There is nothing like starting worship with "How Great Thou Art".

The Roll Call of the Victorious was read. These are the names of the clergy and laity who passed since conference in 2016. Rev. Earse Mauler's name was read along with the others. He had served at JSUMC. The spouses and children of clergy that have passed were also recognized.

Bishop Palmer gave a very impressive sermon on Treading the Verge of the Jordon. One point he mentioned was that we need to shorten the list of things that keeps us apart from God. He is an amazing speaker and puts his all into presenting the word of God to his listeners.

Communion was served to approximately 2,000 worshippers.

Bishop Palmer closed worship with the benediction following the singing of "In Christ Alone", one of my favorites.

I appreciate being able to attend Annual Conference. This year I attended as a delegate from the district.

Be Not Afraid, God is With Us! God is With Us, Be Not Afraid!

By Carol Minehart

From Annual Conference 2017 at Lakeside, Ohio we have received this new mantra above! Our present-day world is a mess, but “Be Not Afraid, God is With Us!” Our denomination may be going through some turmoil, but “God is With Us, Be Not Afraid.” The highlight of the days in Lakeside for me was the worship in Hoover Auditorium, led by our Bishop Gregory Palmer. What a powerful, spirit-filled, and unifying preacher he is! The music, choirs, altar design, communion, ordination services, and messages experienced with 2,000 other United Methodists from across the state were truly inspiring. There were not many issues to vote on this year, so really the focus was worshipping Jesus!

One item that the Conference did vote to approve was a recommendation titled “We Are All God’s Children”, concerning immigrants and our treatment of them. Partial wording included “…the U.M. Church will make it a priority to actively oppose xenophobic, racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Christian, and anti-Muslim threats against all persons within our communities, and will support efforts to build relationships among people of diverse ethnicities, religions and cultures…”

It is an honor to be your lay delegate to Annual Conference. Camping with the Bowens at Lakeside was very fun! IF you should ever get the chance to hear Bishop Palmer’s sermons, take advantage. You can hear all of the worship, music, preaching, and other conference business from June 4-7, 2017 online at www.westohioumc.org.

Let's Welcome, Lindsay Austin!

Greetings!

Let me formally introduce myself. My name is Lindsay Austin and I will be working amongst your congregation this coming year.

First off, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in two cities in North Carolina. I grew up as an only child in Kernersville, NC- a very small, quaint little town in between Winston- Salem and Greensboro, NC. While there, my family and I were active church members at Main Street UMC. During my years growing up at Main Street, I sang in the children's and youth choirs and I attended Sunday school, as well vacation bible school. Upon the start of my fifth grade year, my dad took a new job in the Raleigh area and my family and I moved to a suburb right outside of Raleigh called Garner, NC. It was here that I would find one of my life's passions. In the summer of my fifth grade year, I began taking ice skating lessons. I figure skated competitively for the 5 years I was in Raleigh and loved every minute of it. It was also during my time in Raleigh that I was blessed with a baby brother. On July 18th, 2004 Zachary William Austin made his appearance into the world and my life has never been the same. During the summer between my freshman and sophomore year of high school my mom decided she was ready to return to the place that her, my dad and I originally called home. So, as I often did during my childhood, we packed our things and moved back to Kernersville. I would end up graduating from East Forsyth High School and go on to attend The University of North Carolina at Greensboro where I studied Psychology. You may be wondering, where God plays into all of this? I will briefly share a little bit of my call story with you now. As a young girl growing up, I had a lot of family members pass away. At first, I questioned why. Why are so many of my family members passing away so early on? After all by the time I was 10 years old, I had already lost my cousin Haley who was the same age as I, my grandfather on my dad's side as well as my grandmother on my mom's side. Eventually, I came to the realization that all this death and heartbreak was actually preparing me for my call to serve the Lord. Another catalyst in propelling me towards ministry happened during my junior year of college. In the fall of my junior year my high school sweetheart and I ended our relationship. At the time, this also seemed like a bomb being dropped onto my life but it ultimately served as my second reason to go into ministry full time. Through all of the sadness I was experiencing I found myself saying, if only I had someone who I could talk to or who could help me. That was the moment it dawned on me. I wanted to be that person. I wanted to be able to sit across from someone and say to them, "I've been where you are and it does get better!" Thus, my calling for my life was shaped. I would go to graduate school to become a pastoral counselor.

I am looking forward to seeing how God will work in me and amongst your congregation. I am encouraged and excited to meet each and every one of you! ~

Blessings, Lindsay Austin

Myself standing on the shore at Isle of Palms.

I love the beach!

Zach and I taking pictures on Sullivan's Island.

My entire family last year after a Mother's Day dinner.

Lindsay will be in need of housing 3-4 days a week. Let the church office know if you have anything available to her. She will be staying on the Delaware Campus the other days while attending school.

Congratulations Graduates!! Class of 2017

Cameron Brady Trudy Daughenbaugh Rachel DuBois

Lené Goodman Scott Lewis Cassidy Rall (not pictured)

The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost, 1916

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

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