



Beginning in September, the United Methodist Church will be advertised on TV as part of the Igniting Ministries Campaign. The 30-second commercials are designed to portray the UMC as a welcoming and inclusive church, and will encourage people to visit their local UMC. As part of this campaign, many churches are holding Open House Month in September. Our church is preparing to welcome visitors during the month of September, and will be learning more about the Igniting Ministries Campaign in a workshop this fall.

Although visitors will be welcomed initially by greeters at the door, it's important that each person in the congregation be ready to offer a personal welcome to visitors to our church. We are not usually overwhelmed with visitors, to say the least, but we need to be alert to the presence of visitors in our midst who may be "checking us out" because of the TV commercials. Are we indeed a welcoming and inclusive church? Do visitors feel included in worship and do we make sure they are invited to coffee hour after church?

What about follow-up? Would you be willing to call or visit people who have come for the first time, just to tell them we are glad they worshiped with us and hope they will come back again, and to answer any questions they might have?

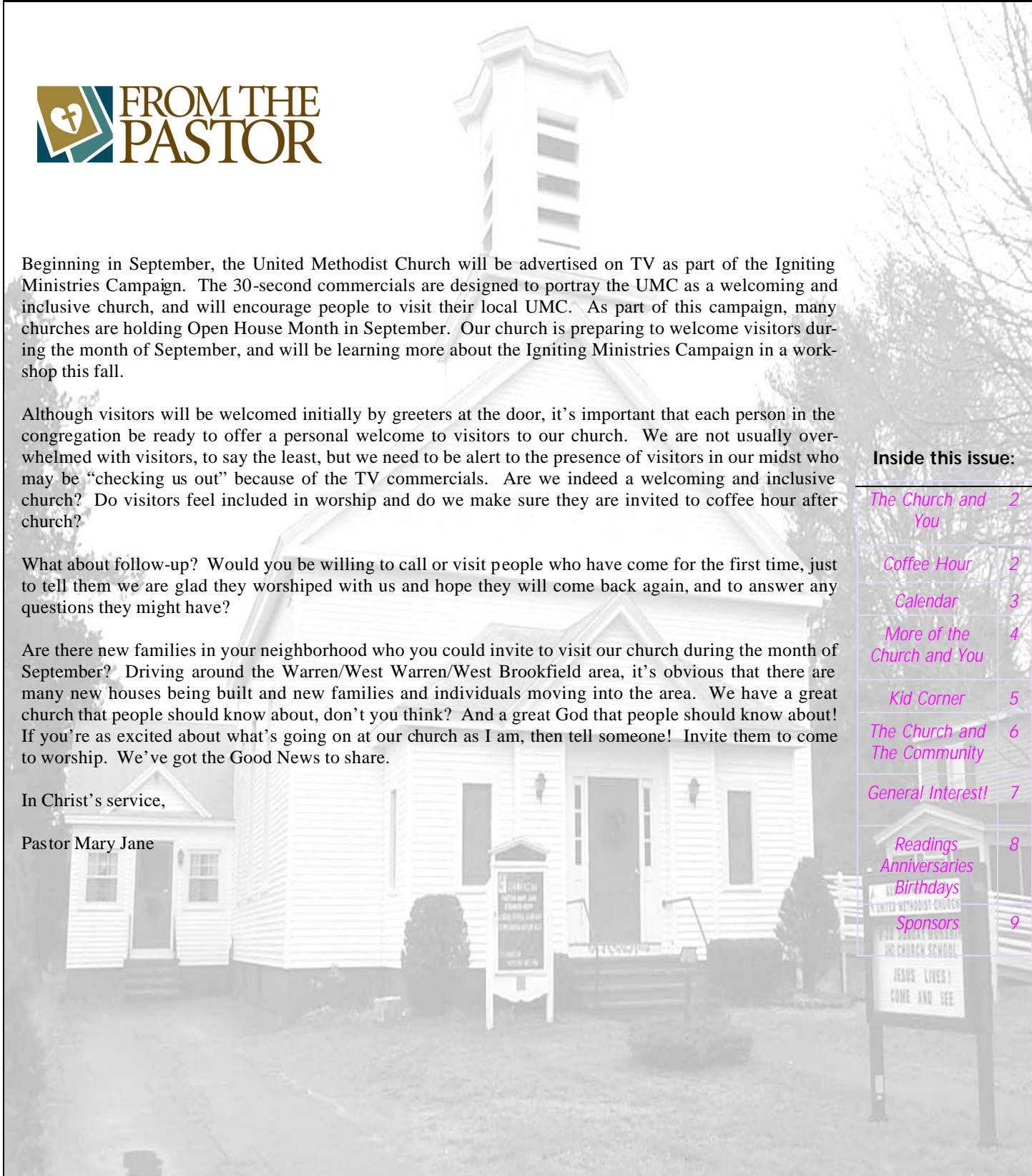
Are there new families in your neighborhood who you could invite to visit our church during the month of September? Driving around the Warren/West Warren/West Brookfield area, it's obvious that there are many new houses being built and new families and individuals moving into the area. We have a great church that people should know about, don't you think? And a great God that people should know about! If you're as excited about what's going on at our church as I am, then tell someone! Invite them to come to worship. We've got the Good News to share.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Mary Jane

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## The Church and You

### HAZENS BACK ON HIGH STREET

Our "miracle couple," Walter and Evelyn Hazen, have returned to their home at 7 High Street in West Brookfield. The Hazens were in a near-fatal car accident in June 2000 and spent months in intensive care and then in a rehabilitation hospital before moving to their son Stuart's home in Brimfield for a few months. At last they are well enough to return to their home. Thanks be to God! They would appreciate a ride to church, and visits from old friends and church members. Their new phone number is (508) 867-2252.

### Coffee Host notice:

To make it easier for our Sunday Coffee Hosts, the nurture committee is making some changes in coffee hour: We will serve crackers and cheese and Munchkins (Donut Holes). The doughnuts will be paid for with money out of the donation dish but the hosts will be responsible for picking them up and supplying the crackers and cheese. Coffee, punch and creamer will be supplied. The children will be seated at their own special table.

Dot Bailey has taken over as chairperson of the Nurture Committee as of June 1st.

### COFFEE HOSTS

Coffee Hour

September 2 – Evelyn and Crystal Armitage  
 September 9 – OPEN HOUSE  
 September 16 – Harvey and Annalee Collins  
 September 23 – Pat Stiles and Heather McCluskey  
 September 30 – Tom and Christy McCann

### FOLLOW-UP FROM WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Over the summer we have been trying out a new worship format and encouraging members of the congregation to give their feedback to the Worship Committee. Based on the comments received, it appears that about 99% of you like the new format. In response to the feedback, the Worship Committee made the following modifications which will begin in September:

\*the Gloria Patri will be included on Communion Sunday each month (several of you expressed a desire to have this traditional praise hymn put back in the service);

????on Hymn Sing Sunday (the last Sunday of the month), there will be no additional praise songs at the beginning of the service; they will be included in the hymn sing;

????the Children's Sermon will follow the scripture lesson, in order to give children more time in worship; Sunday School will be extended to 10:45 in order to give the children time to finish their lessons;

????on Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month) there will be no Mission Moment, in the interest of keeping the service to a reasonable length of time.

The Worship Committee wishes to thank everyone who took the time to fill out the questionnaire in the Sunday bulletin.

### CHURCH PICNIC

On Sunday, July 29 13 "grown-ups" and 17 children gathered at the Parsonage on Allen Street for a picnic. While most of the adults enjoyed the shade of the catalpa tree, the kids (and a few energetic adults) played badminton. A few of the smaller children splashed in the wading pool, while others had an informal contest to see how many of them could fit in the hammock (the answer? Four! Or was it five?) Paul Chicoine presided over the grill, while Pastor Mary Jane led the children in a watermelon-seed-spitting contest. The dessert auction raised more than \$30 for the Sunday School's Heifer Project collection. Fun for all!

### ART SHOW A SUCCESS

The church's first-ever Art Exhibit, held on Saturday, August 25, featured 57 works of art by local artists attractively displayed in Fellowship Hall. A delicious luncheon of pasta salad, chicken salad, molded orange salad, rolls, and pudding with cookies was served to about 40 guests in attendance. The organizers, Judy Bartlett and Dell Marona, along with all those who helped, agreed that it was a success. The paintings (and a few photographs) generated enthusiastic comments including "you should do this again next year."



### ARTS & CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Another ambitious summer project was the five-day "Arts & Crafts for Kids" program offered at the church, under the leadership of Judy Bartlett and Dell Marona, with several assistants. Held from August 13-17 in the morning, the program attracted up to 16 children from local communities. Thanks to all who helped make this a success!



# September 2001

**S M T W T F S**

**1**

**2 3 4 5 6 7 8**

**9 10 11 12 13 14 15**

**16 17 18 19 20 21 22**

**23 24 25 26 27 28 29**

**30**

## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- ????Sun. 9/2 Worship with Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
- ????Wed. 9/5 Choir Rehearsals resume at the Church at 7:00 p.m.
- ????Mon. 9/17-9/19 Pastor at Conference in Atlanta
- ????Thur. 9/20 Administrative Council at Church, 7:00 p.m.
- ????Sat. 9/22 Smorgasbord Supper at Church, 6:00 p.m.
- ????Mon. 9/24 Wings & Hands Craft Group at Church, 7:00 p.m.
- ????Tue. 9/25 Worship Committee at Parsonage, 7:00 p.m.
- ????Sun. 9/30 Baptism – Lance Parrish (parents are Amy and Jeff Parrish, Stewart and Marie King’s granddaughter and husband, who were married in the church in 1996)

## CALENDAR – REGULARLY SCHEDULED

Every week (unless otherwise noted):

- ? Sunday at 9:30 a.m. - Worship with Sunday School
- ? Wednesday at 10 a.m. – Bible study on Book of Acts at home of Annalee Collins
- ? Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. – Prayer Group at Parsonage
- ? Thursday at 3 p.m. – Lectionary Bible Study at Parsonage

## **October 2001**

<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

## More of The Church and You

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETING

The September 18th meeting of the United Methodist Women will be at the church at 7PM. The speaker will be Rev. Nancy Collins. She will talk about Red Bird Mission and show slides.

Also at this meeting the World Thank Offering boxes should be turned in and pledges may be paid. Our "Thanks!" to all who helped make our Tag and Food Sale a success.

Annalee

### A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

To the congregation of the George Whitefield United Methodist Church and Pastor Mary-Jane:

I would like to thank each and everyone of you for all your concerns, prayers and just everything as it was so very caring of everyone. I'm doing better now, but can still use your prayers.

Thank You,  
Gerri McKeon

### BISHOP HASSINGER TO JOIN US FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mark your calendars! On Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Susan W. Hassinger will join us for dinner and a special worship service to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> birthday of the George Whitefield UMC. This is a special milestone in the life of our "new" church and we look forward to celebrating it with our Bishop. More details will follow.

### SMORGASBORD SUPPER ON SEPTEMBER 22

The church will hold a smorgasbord supper at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 22. Volunteers are needed to help serve, to make food, and to clean up. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for those who are able to help.

### CHARGE CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

This year's Charge Conference (a.k.a. "Annual Meeting") with District Superintendent Gwen Purushotham will be held on Monday evening, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the church. Additional details will be provided in next month's newsletter.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY PROJECT

Now that we have a new color printer/copier (thanks to Paul Chicoine) and a professional photographer among our members (Mary Jane Adam), we have decided to produce our very own Church Directory this fall. Using our own resources will allow us to create a directory that truly expresses who we are as a church. If you are interested in working on this project which will begin in late September, please let Pastor Mary Jane know.



Some trust in chariots  
and some in horses;  
but we will remember the  
name of the LORD our God.

P s a l m 2 0 : 7

### OUR SYMPATHY TO

?????the family of Bob Holihan, a former member of the church, who died in August in New York State

?????the family of Alma Brooks, who died on August 18<sup>th</sup>



? *In short, a man's work does not satisfy his material needs alone. In a very deep sense, it gives him a measure of his sanity.*

-Elliot Jacques

? *Without work, all life goes rotten. But when work is soulless, life stifles and dies.*

-Albert Camus

? *No ray of sunlight is ever lost, but the green which it awakes into existence needs time to sprout, and it is not always granted to the sower to see the harvest. Work that is worth anything is always done in faith.*

-Albert Schweitzer

? *To get anywhere, strike out for somewhere, or you'll get nowhere.*

-Martha Lupton

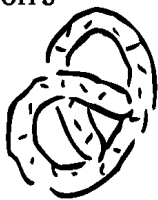
? *I have been all things unholy. If God can work through me, he can work through anyone.*

-Saint Francis of Assisi






# Make a "Prayer Pretzel"



Pretzels were first made by monks in Rome during the 5th century. The shape looks like a person's arms folded in prayer. You can make your own pretzels.








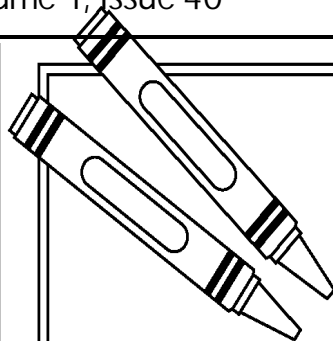
## You will need:

-  A roll of refrigerated bread stick dough
-  One egg yolk
-  1 1/2 tablespoons of milk
-  Cookie sheet
-  Coarse salt



## How to make them:

-  Shape each piece of dough into a pretzel shape.
-  Place on cookie sheet.
-  Brush with a mixture of the egg yolk and milk.
-  Sprinkle with salt. (You can use parmesan cheese, if you prefer.)
-  Bake according to package directions.

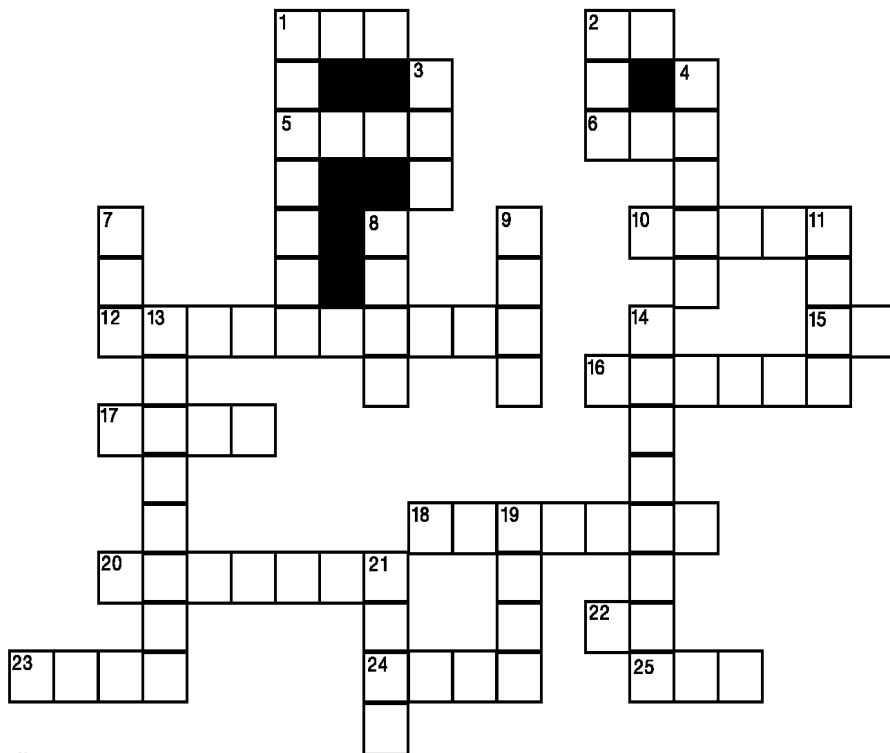


# Just for KIDS

## "Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

Jesus' disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray."  
Find the special prayer that Jesus taught them. Fit the words from the list into the squares on the puzzle.  
Then, transfer them to the blank lines below.

- |     |      |      |       |          |            |
|-----|------|------|-------|----------|------------|
| be  | for  | come | name  | Father   | hallowed   |
| us  | not  | each | sins  | against  | temptation |
| we  | our  | Give | your  | Forgive  |            |
| And | who  | into | bread | Kingdom  |            |
| day | also | lead | daily | everyone |            |



" \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 22 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_ 24 \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 23 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 21 \_\_\_\_\_ 25 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 2A \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_\_\_ 2D \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 1D \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1A \_\_\_\_\_ 17 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_ ."

Luke 11:2-4

Answer: Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.

## The Church and The Community

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS was held at First Congregational Church from July 30-August 3 this year. About 15 children from our church participated, and a photo of one of them (R.J. Ducharme) was featured in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette in an article about the event. Pastor Mary Jane was one of the group leaders, Betsy Cloutier was responsible for snacks, and Rosie Ducharme was a "Cool Crew" leader. About 50 children from the area took part and learned that "Jesus' love is cool!" VBS is an outstanding ecumenical event in our community.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of opportunities in the area for volunteers to work with human services agencies including the Rape Crisis Center (for victims of sexual abuse and violence), Abby's House (for homeless and battered women), AIDS Project Worcester, and UMass Memorial Hospice. Details are posted on the bulletin board at church, or you may call Pastor Mary Jane for more information. All of the above are in the Worcester area.

### RECYCLE YOUR CELL PHONE!

New Hope, Inc. and East Brookfield District Court have a campaign to recycle cell phones. Cell phones that are old, discarded or no longer in service will be collected and then reprogrammed to dial 911 and usually one or two non-emergency numbers like the domestic violence hotline. The phones can then be distributed to victims of domestic violence in the area through the existing New Hope, Inc. network.

To be most effective, phones should be donated with the battery and battery charger. Donors to the local program will receive a letter thanking them for their tax-deductible donation if they submit their name and address along with their phone. Any one wishing to donate a phone should contact Jenne McGinnis at 508-885-0908 or drop the equipment off at her office at the East Brookfield District Court weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Jenne is the Safeplan Court Advocate. (She is also an active member of the South Athol United Methodist Church)

### RAIN



A rainy day can be many things ...  
 It can be moisture for the farmer's garden,  
 Or the picnic that has to be postponed;  
 It can be the replenishing of a stream,  
 Or the overflow of a flood;  
 It can be relief from a hot summer day,  
 Or the chill of an autumn wind.  
 The rotating cycle of clouds to Earth  
 Is part of Nature's plan  
 For stability throughout the Universe,  
 As old as the hills,  
 And dependable as the seasons.  
 Rain and sunshine are equal partners  
 In the daily expression of God's love.

-Jeanne D. Birrell

### Headlines to live by

Robert Capen, former publisher of the Miami Herald, said that the following list which he calls "Headlines to Live By" helps him keep his sense of authenticity.

Here they are:

- ? Above all, cherish your family, friends and faith in God.
- ? Stand up for what you believe. Life is not a popularity contest.
- ? Earn the trust of others. Everything starts with that.
- ? Be willing to take on new adventures. Don't torture yourself with what you might have done.
- ? Move forward decisively, and don't leave any of yourself on the shore.
- ? Do your best, no matter how modest that is.
- ? Be all you can be, every day. You never know who is looking up to you as a mentor.
- ? Be an encourager, especially to those without hope.
- ? Be optimistic in everything you do. Attitude is far more important than talent.
- ? Celebrate diversity. We are a nation of minorities, and will become more so.
- ? Serve others. The spirit of volunteerism is uniquely American and key to our future.
- ? No matter what chapter of life you're in, no matter what your age, start strong and finish strong.
- ? Never tolerate half-baked efforts in yourself.



-Found in Outlook, The First United Methodist Church of San Diego

## The hearts of the fathers

The angel Gabriel announced to the priest, Zechariah, that he and his wife Elizabeth would have a son. The son was to be called John. Gabriel also said that John would bring "many of the people ... back to the Lord" and would "turn the hearts of the fathers to their children" (see Luke 1:5:ff). Recognizing that there are countless loving fathers today whose hearts are turned to their children, it is still true that far too many have hearts turned elsewhere.

Russell Miller's book called *The House of Getty* offers a heart-tugging story that makes the point. Timothy Getty, the young son of J. Paul Getty, the oil tycoon, had a frail body and was often ill. When Timothy was 11 and about to turn 12, his father telephoned him and asked what he wanted for his 12th birthday, "I want your love, Daddy, and I want to see you." But the father felt that he couldn't see his son then. Too many business obligations.

Shortly thereafter, Timothy died in a hospital without ever seeing his father. J. Paul Getty, known at the time as the world's richest man, was devastated by the death.

The story brings to mind Socrates' warning to the people of Athens: "Fellow citizens, why do you turn and scrape every stone to gather wealth, and take so little care of your children, to whom one day you must relinquish it all?"

-See Miller's *The House of Getty*

## A prayer from a former salesman

In 1860 Dwight L. Moody quit his job as a successful traveling salesman because he felt the Lord was calling him to be an evangelist. He became one of the most well-known preachers of his time. Holding campaigns in England and America, Moody is said to have spoken to over 100 million people about Christ. Billy Graham patterned his ministry somewhat after Moody's methods. Below is one of Moody's personal prayers:

### "Use me"

Use me then, my Savior, for whatever purpose, and whatever way you may require. Here is my poor heart, an empty vessel; fill it with your grace. Here is my sinful and troubled soul; quicken it and refresh it with your love.

Take my heart for your abode; my mouth to spread abroad the glory of your name; my love and all my powers, for the advancement of your believing people; and never suffer the steadfastness and confidence of my faith to abate; so that at all times I may be enabled from the heart to say, 'Jesus needs me, and I am his.'

-Quoted in *Eerdmans' Book of Famous Prayers*

## What to do when the "rests" come

John Ruskin, one of England's greatest thinkers of the 19th century, once pondered the importance of "rests" in a musical composition. He began to compare those "rests" put in by a composer to the "rests" that come to us in life; the times, for example, when our lives seem to be put on hold for awhile. The times when, for whatever reason, we are compelled to sit and wait until we realize God is now telling us to move on ... out of the wilderness into the promised land God has prepared.

Ruskin wrote: "There is no music in a rest, but there is the making of music in it."

So as God lets the music of our lives unfold, be pleased with the tune, "rests" and all.

-Adapted from *Dreams in the Desert*, compiled by Mrs. Charles E. Cowan

## A royal legend

Legend has it that, before he died, Charlemagne asked to be entombed sitting upright on his throne, his crown placed on his head and his scepter in his hand. His royal cape was to be draped around his shoulders, and an open book was to be placed in his lap.

Several hundred years later, Emperor Frederick Barbarossa wanted to preserve the bones of Charlemagne, his model in the faith. He sent a team to open the tomb and place the bones in a golden reliquary while he proclaimed Charlemagne's canonization. The legendary report of this team is that the body was just as Charlemagne had ordered. But several things had happened over the centuries. The crown was tilted. The mantle was moth-eaten. The body was disfigured. But on the skeletal thighs was the book Charlemagne had requested: the Bible.

The book was open. And one bony finger pointed to these words: "What gain, then, is it for a man to win the whole world and lose his soul?"

-Homiletics

## Are you proud of your work?

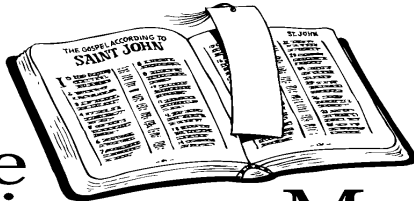
Remember this. We work for the Lord and not simply for other people. He is our employer, finally, and the one unto whom we live out our lives. And when we can take our own little piece of work and sign our name to it, and offer it up to God, we will have discovered the secret of the most incredible kind of life that one could ever hope to have, and truly we will "have it made" in the very best sense of that expression! So again, can you sign your name to it? Your little piece of work, the task that you go about doing day after day, that very common and routine task that is such an integral part of your life. Can you sign your name to it at the end of each day and be proud to do so?

-Dr. Norman Neaves

**Scripture Readings: Notice**

Each month I will publish the readers for each weeks scripture lessons. It is requested that you read from the Lectern Bible. If you can not be in church on the week that you are scheduled to read, please arrange for someone else to read in your place or contact Paul Chicoine or Rev. Mary Jane.

Pastor Mary Jane is willing to give tips/lessons to anyone desiring them. Also if you are interesting in being included in the readers list please notify Paul Chicoine at 436-7744.



## Bible Readings for the Month

### September Scripture Readings:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Jeremiah 2:4-13**  
 Stewart **Psalm 81:1, 10-16 (UMH 803)**  
 King **Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**  
**Luke 14:1, 7-14**
- 9<sup>th</sup> - **Jeremiah 18:1-11**  
 Harvey **Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)**  
 Collins **Philemon 1-21**  
**Luke 14:25-33**
- 16<sup>th</sup> - **Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28**  
 Charlie **Psalm 14 (UMH 746)**  
 Riem **1 Timothy 1:12-17**  
**Luke 15:1-10**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - **Jeremiah 8:18—9:1**  
 Liz **Psalm 79:1-9 or Psalm 4 (UMH 741)**  
 Sanford **1 Timothy 2:1-7**  
**Luke 16:1-13**
- 30<sup>th</sup> - **Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15**  
 Fifth **Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (UMH 810)**  
 Sunday **1 Timothy 6:6-19**  
**Luke 16:19-31**

### Need a ride to Church???

If anyone in the local area needs a ride to church on Sundays or to any church function or meeting, please call Judith Bartlett at 867-3002 or the church office at 867-3667 for help in making arrangements.

Also, if you are willing to give anyone a ride, please have your name put on the driver's list in the church office.

THANKS !!!



### Happy September Birthdays

Richard Ducharme Jr	9/2	Barry Bennett	9/3
Cory Snyder	9/9	Neata Campbell	9/13
Sharon Sledziewski	9/17	David Masterman	9/17
Dorothy Bailey	9/18	Sophie Williamson	9/19
Gary Adley	9/21	Kelly Frazier	9/27
Troy Chagnon	9/28	Ruth Carpenter	9/30
Charles Russis	9/?		

### Celebrating Anniversaries in September

Paul H. Chicoine Jr. & Rosalind Ducharme	9/2 (1989)
Gregg & Linda Bell	9/18
Gerald & Brenda Ziehl	9/18
Lindsey & Barbara Smith	9/25 (1948)



### The Grief and Loss Support Group

**“YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE IN YOUR BE-REAVEMENT”**

The last Wednesday of each month at 1:00 P.M. Sponsored by the **WEST BROOKFIELD COUNCIL on AGING** at the Senior Center, 27 Front St. Everyone is welcome. For more information call Frank Halloran 867-2497.

### AN OPEN INVITATION

The George Whitefield Rock welcomes any and all submissions. We reserve the right to edit or reject any material. This is your newsletter, please feel free to make any suggestions to the pastor or the editors. Also if you would like to share your loved ones birthdays and anniversaries please send them for submission to the editor.

Have you visited our web site lately?

[www.gbgm-umc.org/whitefield](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/whitefield)