

THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 35

Issue 4

“Kind Words Make Good Echoes.”

The above title is taken from a bumper sticker I just saw. I think it sums up nicely what I wanted to share after reading two other items recently.

I am working my way through a Lenten devotional this year that gave me considerable pause for meditation the other day. The writer was considering those words of Christ to the criminal on the cross beside his; “Today you will be with me in paradise.” He wondered if the man’s mother was there and overheard the exchange. Jesus’ mother was there, after all, so why not the other fellow’s? Did the words offer her any comfort? Further, he asked, were any of the criminal’s victims there, seeking vengeance, justice or closure? What effect would Christ’s generosity toward this man have on them? Would their hearts be hardened, or changed?

It made me wonder who might have heard the other statements from the cross, such as the forgiveness Jesus prayed upon the soldiers who nailed him there. At least one saw in Jesus, by the end of the day, that, “Surely this was the son of God.”

When Jesus gave his mother and his cherished disciple into one another’s safe-keeping, who, overhearing it, might have been moved in their hearts by such care and compassion for loved ones?

What kindness or consideration can we speak into another person’s life that might ripple, like waves on a pond, into expanding circles of love in the community around us. Our words and actions matter. Many need to hear, and overhear, good and fruitful words from those of us claiming that Christ shapes our lives and living. Frankly, there are too, too many calling themselves Christian, whose words and attitudes belie the Gospel of Love, as taught by Jesus of Nazareth.

Take as evidence an article that appeared in the news last week, about a church in Kingsport TN which opened a website for restaurant servers to air their irritation with church folks. Why church folks? It seems that we, more than most, are inconsiderate, overbearing, condescending, and lousy tipppers to boot.

My son’s first job was in a fast food restaurant. He quickly learned why an approaching church van made all the employees’ attitudes sour. Still in high school himself, he was aghast at the behavior of church youth who were loud, crude and left a terrible mess behind. He would certainly concur with the website’s name.

The website, sundaysaretheworst.com, hopes to make Christians more aware of the damage we do others directly, as well as the poor picture of Jesus we project in the name of

the church when we are rude, demeaning or cheap. The campaign to elicit servers’ stories will run through Easter. On that day, the website’s creator, Pastor Chad Roberts, encourages Christians who eat out to double their tip in an effort to promote a more charitable relationship with those who work hard to serve.

Words have the power to heal or to hurt, to draw in or push away. The way we speak outside the church walls forms the opinions of those who might, or may never, come in, based on our behavior. Next time you are served at a restaurant table, consider how you can invite your server to the Lord’s Table.

Let the kindness in your words, and actions, echo the message of love and grace that comes from being the company of Jesus Christ.

Peace, tom

A RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS **MARCH 23RD, 2014**

By Our Gifts

2014 Budget income received	\$2,240.00
2014 Budget income needed	\$3,122.00
2014 Budget income weekly (under)	\$ 882.00
2014 Budget income year to date (under)	\$10,133.54

APRIL WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist Thelma Hinton
 Ushers Dale & Glenda Chaffin
 Youth Liturgists, Acolytes, and Ushers: Matthew Webb,
 Clair Webb, Megan Moore, Cody Dove, & Craig Raymond

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Cub Scout Yard Sale-Saturday, April 5th - church parking lot
Bible Study **Wednesdays through April 23rd at 7:00pm**
(no Bible study on April 16th – you are invited to the Community Easter Service at the Monterey Church of the Nazarene at 6:30pm)

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Community Easter Service **April 16th at 6:30pm**
at Monterey Church of the Nazarene
Maundy Thursday Service **at MUMC, April 17th at 7:00pm**
Easter Sunrise Service **April 20, at 6:30am**
At Eagle Flight Park in Cumberland Cove
(Directional Signs Will Be Posted along Hwy 70 to Cumberland Cove)
Easter Sunday Worship **at MUMC April 20, 2014 11:00am**

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Hedy Reeves contributions were made to the building fund:

Fred & Rebecca Bailey

THANK YOU

An anonymous gift was offered to the church and we wish to let those persons know how much their generosity is appreciated. God Bless you for your kindness.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We will be taking pictures in the Welker Room for a new pictorial directory we are making in house for our church members and friends. Please plan to have your picture taken on either Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday following worship. If you are unable to have a picture taken on either of these days, you are welcomed to provide a picture for us to scan and add to the directory.

MONTEREY'S APRIL BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to update our records and to include your information in the newsletter, please send the church your birthdays and anniversaries. *(Please list the name(s) and date(s) of all in your family who are connected to the church. Thank you!)*

- Vickie Henley (4/1)
- Jim Hitch (4/3)
- Darlene Greene (4/4)
- John Stott (4/10)
- Glenda York (4/13)
- Margaret Morales (4/15)
- Debbie Sontag (4/17)
- MaryJane Lifsey (4/18)
- Thelma Hinton (4/19)
- Hazel Walker (4/24)
- Patsy King (4/26)
- Saundra Gilmore (4/27)
- Delbert Butson (4/27)
- Clayton Pepper (4/29)
- Betty Higgins (4/30)
- Will Sheckler (4/30)
- Debbie Stott (4/30)

MONTEREY'S APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- Richard & Suzy Jackson (4/4)
- Nick & Joan Axen (4/12)

EASTER FERNS OR EASTER LILLIES

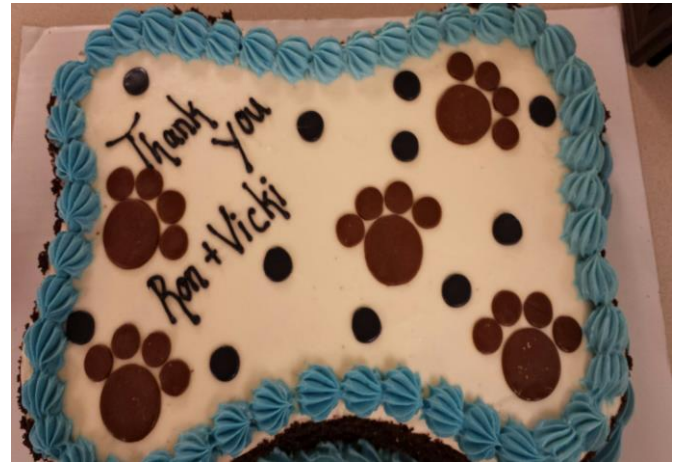
Easter Ferns/Lillies are available to purchase through the church office. They will be in our sanctuary in memory or honor of loved ones throughout the Easter Season. Please call the church office before April 7th if you would like to add your name to the listing.

NOTE FOR THOUGHT FROM JOHN BARWICK

When you think there's no hope, thank God for Grace.

CUB SCOUTS TROOP #15

You are invited to come support our troop at our yard sale to be held on April 5th in the parking lot of Monterey United Methodist Church. Funds raised will help with projects and new badges during the year.



TOMMY HAY PROVIDED A TESTIMONY AND DELICIOUS REFRESHMENTS TO SHOW HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE KINDNESS EXTENDED HIM DURING HIS RECOVERY FROM HEART SURGERY

MONTHLY & WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULING

- Pastor's Scheduled Day off Fridays, starting in March
- Sunday School Sundays at 10:00am
- Staff Meeting Mondays at 9:15am – 10:30am
- Monterey Hilltop Chorale Mondays at 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- Cub Scouts #15 Mondays at 6:00pm
- Garden Club 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:30am
- Civitan Club 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm
- Standing Stone 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
- AGAPE Chapel Wednesdays and Thursdays at 2:00pm
- Girl Scouts #1581 - First Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm
- Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays at 6:00pm
- Bible Study (starting March 12th) Wednesdays at 7:00pm
- Discipleship Meetings Fridays at 2:00pm
- Cub Scouts #15 Fridays at 6:00pm
- Cottage Ministry Fridays & Saturdays 9:00am-3:00pm

GIRL SCOUTS #1581



GIRL SCOUTS VISIT THE SOLID WASTE DEPT. IN COOKEVILLE TO LEARN ABOUT RECYCLING SERVICES IN THE AREA.

“Ten Things to Know List” for Agape Preschool

10. Our first year's budget to open the school was \$84,075.00. Over \$10,000.00 of those funds went to renovate the church to house the school. For example: painting and repairing walls, ceilings, replacing lights, and installing a much needed smoke alarm system.

9. Our second year's budget was \$59,169.00. We improved our teacher assistant's salary from \$7.25 to \$8.25 per hour.

8. Our third year's budget was reduced still further to \$49,755.00. We were forced to make several cutbacks including eliminating our secretarial support.

7. We are currently enrolled in a Child Care Assistance program through the State of Tennessee. Children who meet certain qualifications are partially funded by the state. The current rate is \$108.00 a month. We have 2 students who qualify for this assistance.

6. We are currently enrolled in a food reimbursement program through the State of Tennessee and Second Harvest, which helps reduce our food costs. This has made a significant difference in our food program.

5. We have received several grants through a variety of organizations to improve literacy, technology, and our playground. These grants allow us to replace books, software, and equipment which are NOT covered by the grant.

4. Our church has made a tremendous difference in assisting the school through donations. For example: toothbrushes, toothpaste, paper towels, dishwashing soap and tabs.

3. Any savings we are able to achieve we try to give back to our teachers in the form of a bonus. We really have great personnel and want to keep them.

2. We try to save dollars in every way possible and use those savings to offset the costs for required teacher training as well as supplies and equipment.

And the most important fact you should know about the Agape Preschool is....

1. Our most important resource is God. Please pray daily for our students, their families, our teachers and staff, and the continuance of our program.



BENEFITS OF BEING AN AGAPE PRESCHOOL STUDENT!!!



IMAGINATION CAN TAKE YOU ANYWHERE!



ENJOYING THE LAST FEW DAYS OF WINTER WITH SOME GOOD FRIENDS



MS. DEBBIE SONTAG TEACHES THE STUDENTS ABOUT HER PASSION FOR WORKING WITH CLAY

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

SPONSOR:

MONTEREY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHERE:

CUMBERLAND COVE EAGLE FLIGHT PARK

WHEN:

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2014

TIME:

6:30 A.M.

SINGING - HOT COFFEE - HOT TEA

DOUGHNUTS

JUICE

RSVP

JOHN BARWICK

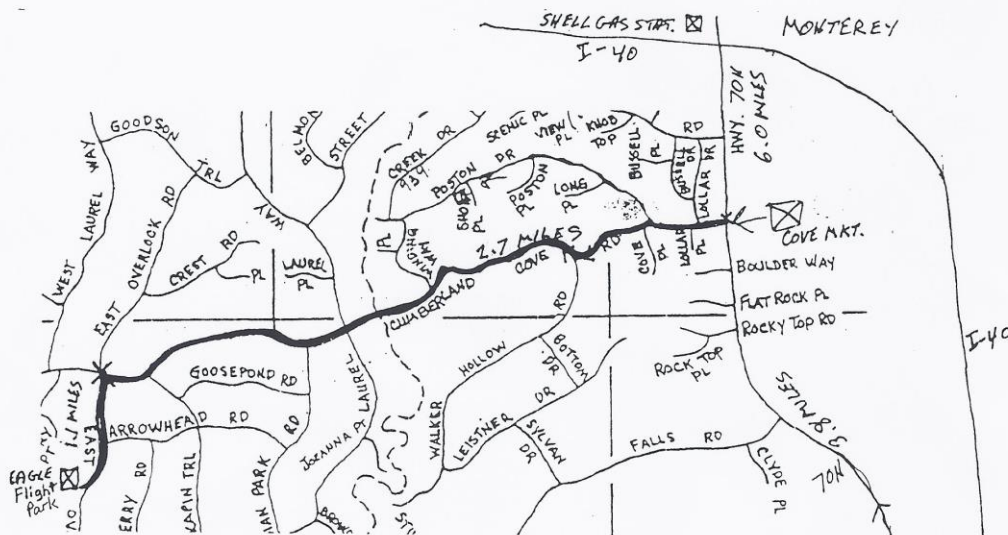
931-510-7480 or

CHURCH OFFICE

931-839-2597

BRING A CHAIR

COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED



THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 35

Issue 4



The people of The United Methodist Church

Church office: 931-839-2597
Church e-mail: church@montereyumc.com
www.montereyumc.com

Come worship with us at Monterey at 11am



*The mission of Monterey United Methodist Church is to make
Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Monterey United Methodist Church
124 North Holly Street
Monterey, TN 38574

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Monterey United Methodist Church

April 2014



Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: "The Lord's right hand has done mighty things! The Lord's right hand is lifted high; the Lord's right hand has done mighty things!" I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

The Lord has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death. Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. *Psalm 118:15-19 (NIV)*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 4:30p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:00p-Choir Rehearsal 7:00p-BibleStudy	3 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	4 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 2:00p-Discipleship Team 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	5 9:00a-Cottage Ministry CUB SCOUTS YARD SALE (in the MUMC parking lot)
6 Ezekiel 32:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	7 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale	8 10:30a-Garden Club	9 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Choir Rehearsal 7:00p-BibleStudy	10 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	11 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 2:00p-Discipleship Team 5:30p-7:30 - Civitan Spaghetti Dinner 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	12 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
Palm Sunday 13	Holy Week 14	Holy Week 15	Holy Week 16	Holy Week 17	Holy Week 18	Holy Week 19
Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale	6:00p-Civitan	8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-Community Easter Service @ Monterey Church of the Nazarene	8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 7:00p-Maundy Thursday Service @ MUMC Reading Ahead in Scripture: Exodus: 12:1-14 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31-35	9:00a-Cottage Ministry 2:00p-Discipleship Team 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	9:00a-Cottage Ministry
Easter Sunday 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18 6:30a-Sunrise Service at Eagle Flight Park 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale	6:00p-Standing Stone	8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Choir Rehearsal 7:00p-BibleStudy	8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #385	9:00a-Cottage Ministry 2:00p-Discipleship Team 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	9:00a-Cottage Ministry
27	28	29	30			
Acts 2:14, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31 Men's Breakfast will resume in May 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale		8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Choir Rehearsal			