

THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 35

Issue 8

“WHAT’S MY LINE?”

Tom Ehrich (writing for Religious News Service) says The Church needs to change what we are spending too much time talking about. The things we drone on about aren’t winning the world, and are, in fact, losing our present members. “Who wants to devote life and loyalty to a religion that debates trifles and bullies the outsider,” he asks? Our kids are asking it too.

In an article entitled, “8 Things the Church Needs to Say,” he discusses what we have left behind as we became partisan and patriarchal, a bunch of “tax-avoiding, sex-obsessed moral scolds and amateur politicians.” His eight points overlap a little bit, and are more subject areas than statements, but I think I can distill his thesis down to eight key words I have gleaned from his writing, words we should use more often.

1. **Jesus** - That’s right; in our moralizing and hand-wringing and posturing, Christians often forget to name the Name that is the center of our spiritual identity, Christ Jesus.
2. **Faith** - Sometimes used as a denominational identity, we talk about “Our Faith” as a collection of the things we say we believe. Ehrich suggests we go back to using faith as a synonym for trust, and talk about why we trust our lives to Jesus. This transcends the “I’m right, you’re wrong” comparison of doctrines, he says, and personally attests to “*why* I believe.”
3. **Encounter** - when we stop naming the things we believe about religion, and start to talk about the One we believe in, we have the opportunity, indeed the challenge, to describe how coming to know Christ through personal experience has impacted and changed our lives for the better.
4. **Cares** - Without too much whining or finger-wagging, Ehrich says, we ought to point out the situations in the world that we think God cares about and urges us to care for.
5. **Action** - The Church should talk about how believing in Jesus calls for disciplined living on the part of disciples, and reaching out to take action for the needs of others.
6. **Hope** - We should live confidently, knowing the path we are on and the destination it leads to. If we truly trust God, through Jesus Christ, then we will offer assurance of God’s victory. Hope is not a wish we dream of, but a promise from God we accept.
7. **Joy** - The world is all about pursuing happiness, but the Church needs to talk about, and show by example, the “deeper response to God that feels whole and peaceful.”
8. **Please** - While the article doesn’t use this word specifically, Ehrich states that at some point, in between all the things we are saying, we ought to pause and listen.

We can learn a lot about what needs saying when we listen to the experience of others, both fellow Christians and those outside the Church. Invite their words.

A reasonable, perhaps winsome, testimony could gather these words up like so; “Because of my **encounter** with **Jesus**, I have **faith** that God **cares** for the world and has called me to **action** to live in such a way as to offer others **hope** and **joy**. **Please** share with me your own experience of God, and join me in this life.”
Peace, tom

A RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS **JULY 27TH, 2014**

By Our Gifts

2014 Budget income received	\$1,634.80
2014 Budget income needed	\$3,122.00
2014 Budget income weekly (under)	\$1,487.20
2014 Budget income year to date (under)	\$10,868.43

AUGUST WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist Bob Cournoyer
 Ushers Keelan & Marcy Milligan
 Youth Liturgists, Acolytes, and Ushers: Anna Wiggins,
 Matthew Webb, Clair Webb, Megan Moore, & Cody Dove

MONTHLY & WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULING

Pastor’s Scheduled Day off	Fridays
Sunday School	Sundays at 10:00am
Staff Meeting	Mondays at 9:15am – 10:30am
Monterey Hilltop Chorale	Mondays at 6:30pm – 8:00pm
<i>(Chorale resumes in September)</i>	
Cub Scouts #15	Mondays at 6:00pm
Garden Club	2 nd Tuesday of each month at 10:30am
Civitan Club	3 rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm
Standing Stone	4 th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
AGAPE Chapel	Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8:30am
Girl Scouts #1581-First	Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Cub Scouts #15	Fridays at 6:00pm
Cottage Ministry	Fri., 9am-3pm & Sat., 9am-1pm

BISHOP’S BLOG

If you are not already following the Bishop’s blog you are invited to join by copy and pasting this address: <http://bishopbillmcalilly.com> into your internet search bar. You will be blessed.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

The Cottage Summer Yard Sale	Saturday, August 2, 8:00a – 3:00p
Cub Scouts Car Wash & Bake Sale	Saturday, August 2, 10:00a – 2:00p

CUB SCOUTS #15



SUMMER FUN WITH OUR CUB SCOUTS WHO WENT TO RESIDENT CAMP AT BOXWELL RESERVATION

MONTEREY'S AUGUST 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!)*

- Nick Potter (8/1)
- Keith Phillips (8/2)
- Kimberly Griffin-Talbot (8/3)
- Janet Erskine (8/3)
- Suzy Jackson (8/4)
- Vicki Dennis (8/4)
- Ina McCormick (8/7)
- Kaleb Buckner (8/8)
- Kip Powell (8/9)
- Spencer Powell (8/10)
- Justina Groover (8/10)
- Roger Garrett (8/11)
- Kaitlan Mountain (8/12)
- Jack Ray (8/14)
- Angie Reese (8/14)
- Celine Kniep (8/15)
- Mike Wiggins (8/18)
- Vickie Gibson (8/18)
- Penny Pepper (8/19)
- Rita Glyn-Jones (8/21)
- Byron Newbern (8/23)
- Anna Wiggins (8/24)
- LeAnn Looper (8/26)
- Gay Teeple (8/27)
- Rev. Connie Hall (8/27)

MONTEREY'S AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- Vince & Sandi Vanacore (8/5)
- Dale & Glenda Chaffin (8/9)

HOMEBOUND OUTREACH

Please be aware that while we are remodeling the choir loft and the sound system we will not be recording CD copies of the services. We will return to sending out copies to the homebound as soon as we are able. If you or anyone you know would like to have a recorded copy of our worship services please contact Janet at the church office. Keeping connected is a priority for us at MUMC.

TO THE MISSION MINDED OF MONTEREY UNITED METHODIST - THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your support of Habitat for Humanity while building our home. Our new home is great! Thank you for your generous donation that helped to make our dream a reality. We now have a safe and affordable place to raise our children.

Thanks and God Bless,
Roger & Misty Simmons

COTTAGE NEWS

The month of June saw 110 visitors to the Cottage. A number of our members have also graced cottage staff with donations. For the 1st ever Cottage Yard Sale ... staff will offer up Inventory that needs turned over in addition to offering lots of good buys come August 2nd.

Donations from cottage earnings have assisted our clergy in keeping water running and lights on for members of our community and will help to purchase groceries for others in need.

The Cottage staff thanks all of you who support them and in turn community members of Monterey. Thank you!

AGAPE PRESCHOOL'S GARDEN:



IT KEEPS GROWING EVEN WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE ON THEIR SUMMER BREAK!

NOTE FOR THOUGHT FROM JOHN BARWICK

You can tell how big a person is by what it takes to discourage him.

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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



August 2014

The people of The United Methodist Church

And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	2 800a-Cottage Summer Yard Sale 10:00a-Cub Scouts Car Wash & Bake Sale
3 Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	4 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	5	6 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 4:30p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	7 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 5:15p-Girl Scouts #385	8 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	9 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
10 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	11 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	12	13 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	15 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	16 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
17 Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	18 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	19 6:00p-Civitas	20 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	21 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	22 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	23 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
24 Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	25 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	26 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Standing Stone	27 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts	29 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	30 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
31 Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service						