

# THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 36

Issue 8

**“WARNING: OFFENSIVE MATERIAL”**

E-mail, Facebook, Twitter; it’s a wonder they call them “social media”. So many people seem to be using digital electronic communications these days to convey messages that aren’t very sociable at all. Folks will remotely state, (or echo, forward, share) sentiments by keyboard that they would probably not voice to their friends face to face.

Many will use the Constitution’s first amendment freedom of speech clause to defend their “right to offend.” These often bemoan the growing trend of those who readily take offense ever more quickly and loudly. It does seem that we live in a culture where taking offense, and giving offense, are more and more common. Perhaps it is time to seek a more uncommon way.

Does the Bible offer any help? I think it does. And that is why I will be preaching, through the first four Sundays of August, a series (of sorts) on “Offensive Material.” Turning to the scriptures, we will look at ways to handle ourselves in ways that make us peacemakers instead of anger instigators. Subjects and sermon titles will include; confessing our offenses, “My Bad”; forgiving offenders, “Elevators, Not Escalators”; avoiding offending, “Mind Your Metaphors”; and focusing on the fight to eradicate the Prime Offense, “Knife to a Gunfight.” As I write these sermons, and as I deliver them, I ask your prayers of support, that I might rightly hear, and rightly speak the will of God for, and to, His people.

The end result, I hope, is that we will be seen as a people of God, will begin to stand distinctly from the society we inhabit, as a peaceable and welcoming people; and become people more ready to listen intently, ponder deeply, evaluate clearly and then speak kindly. I think that sort of people would draw the attention of our neighbors and encourage them to want to be that sort of person too. Beyond that, I hope that by demonstrating receptivity even to those with whom we differ, embracing those we cannot change and who cannot change us, we will shine as examples of what good conduct Christ enables his followers to live out. Let us become the folks the old hymn describes, when it sings, “And they will know we are Christians by our love.”

I referred above to the first four Sundays of August. The month’s fifth and final Sunday will be a singing service with a fellowship meal following. I promise to carefully screen all the songs suggested for that day, to insure none of them contain any “Offensive Material” needing a warning label. All will be uplifting and wholesome. How will you be changed, strengthened or encouraged? Commit the next five Sundays to finding out.

Peace, tom

**MONTHLY & WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULING**

Pastor Tom’s Scheduled Day off	Fridays
Rev. Connie’s Scheduled Day off	Thursdays
Sunday School	Sundays at 10:00am
Staff Meeting	Mondays at 9:15am – 10:30am
Youth Group	Sundays at 12:15pm
Monterey Hilltop Chorale	not meeting in August
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 8:30am
Girl Scouts #1581	First Wednesday of the month
Cub Scouts #15	Fridays at 6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Cottage Ministry	Friday & Saturday, 9am - Noon

**AUGUST WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Liturgist	Bob Cournoyer
Ushers	Michael & Teresa Targosz
Acolytes	<i>if interested please see Rev. Connie</i>

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

<b>Administrative Council Meeting</b>	<b>August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm</b>
<b>Choir Rehearsal resumes</b>	<b>Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm</b>

**A RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS** **JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> 2015**

**By Our Gifts**

2015 Budget income needed/week	\$3,057.75
2015 Budget income received last week	\$2,293.95
2015 Budget income this week (under)	\$ 763.83
2015 Budget income year to date (under)	\$16,012.85

**SPRINGTIME VISITORS TO PRISCILLA’S GARDEN**



**DISCIPLESHIP STUDY BRINGS INSIGHT TO OUR AGE**

In a day and age when 'truth' is a rare commodity, remember we can turn to see 'truth' revealed in the Bible. Consider joining in fun and fellowship while growing in Christ with others. Bible study need not be a singular journey for we are encouraged to go it together as members of the 'body of Christ'. Having now completed studies regarding; *The Gospel of Mathew*, the *Daniel Plan* and Sally Eby's *Women of Faith*, the Discipleship Team is pleased to look ahead to Marcy's study regarding the *Culture of Poverty*. **Please Mark these dates on your calendar:**

Join Marcy Milligan to gain insights to poverty and the Christian response.

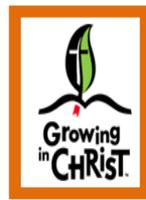
**Study: *The Culture of Poverty...* offered Thursday: Sept. 3, through 24<sup>th</sup> - Please register by August 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Location: Monterey United Methodist Church**

**To register call the Church Office: 931-839-2597 and ask to speak with Rev. Connie.**

**YOUTH NEWS:**



Vacation time for me has been wonderful. For our youth it has been a time for basketball, softball, the beach and long visits with family. Now school is back in session and so are we. Youth meetings will start back on Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. This meeting will be really important because we are going to do some planning for the year ahead. So bring your appetite (*lunch will be served*), your bible, your friends and your best ideas.

While visiting my sister, we went to a yogurt shop. There on the wall was the cutest t-shirt with an adorable frog on it. As I was looking at the shirt I just knew we had the name of our youth group – THE FROGS. Why? Because, we **FULLY RELY ON GOD**. What do you think gang?  
Frances

**AGAPE NEWS**



Thanks to several volunteers who helped make this amazing transformation. The playground was covered in weeds and barely any mulch. We provided the manpower, VEC provided the funds 😊.

With God's Love, Vikki Williamson

**THANK YOU STREETWALKERS FOR A JOB WELL DONE:**

Our gals pounded the pavement for the last of three outings on July 15<sup>th</sup> completing the delivery of our invitational door hangers extending our reach beyond the walls of the church and into the community. Thank you Deborah Wolfe, Linda Jensen, Pam Dove and Novi Tolley for your steadfast efforts in being hands and feet for our Lord.

Rev. Connie Hall

**COTTAGE NEWS**

The Cottage reports that our June sales were down with only around 60 persons visiting the Cottage. July, however, has been great. Thanks to the many donations received we were able to revive and renew the inventory. The customers have remarked to the high quality of the donations made available to them. We are very pleased as a ministry of the Church to be able to contribute to our AGAPE school which is not possible to stay open for the year without everyone's support!

**NOTE FOR THOUGHT FROM JOHN BARWICK**

In the blink of an eye, everything can change. So forgive often and love with all your heart. You never know when you may not have that chance again.

**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)
- Vicky Dennis (8/4)
- 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)
- Vickie Gibson (8/18)
- Mike Wiggins (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)

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – G-FORCE 2015**

Thanks to everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School this year. We had 20 children in 3 groups during the week. Special thanks to Deborah Wolfe, Jan Stansell, and Suzy Jackson for being group leaders; Bob Cournoyer and Ken Crandall for the science lab experiments; Bill Wiggins for being Moses; Marcy Milligan for being one of the women at the tomb; and Suzy Cournoyer and Vikki Williamson for heading up our crafts. Extra thanks go out to Kay Wiggins for all the help with snack suppers and clean up and Pastor Tom for all his help, especially grilling the burgers and hot dogs. Thanks to those who came to assist with crafts and the meals and for those who provided all the food and donated materials. Thanks to you we reached out to many children in our community.

Vickie Gibson

**SOME VBS HIGHLIGHTS...**



ARTS & CRAFTS FUN WITH SUSIE & VICTORIA



VICKIE GIBSON LEADS THE CHILDREN IN SONG



BOB & KEN & SCIENCE???



REVERENT MS. MARCY

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The people of The United Methodist Church

Church office: 931-839-2597  
Church e-mail: [church@montereyumc.com](mailto:church@montereyumc.com)  
[www.montereyumc.com](http://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 2015

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Psalm 51:10-12 (NIV)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
2 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13 Psalm 51:1-12 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 12:15p-Youth	3 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:30p-Administrative Council Meeting	4	5 6:00p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	6	7 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	8 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
9 2 Samuel 8:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 12:15p-Youth	10 9:15a-Staff Meeting	11	12 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	13 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	14 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	15 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
16 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service 12:15p-Youth	17 9:15a-Staff Meeting	18	19 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	20 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	21 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	22 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
23 1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11) 22-30, 41-43 Psalm 84 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a- Worship Service 12:15p-Youth	24 9:15a-Staff Meeting	25 6:00p- Standing Stone  REGISTRATION DUE FOR BIBLE STUDY: <i>The Culture of Poverty</i> with Marcy Milligan	26 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	27 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	28 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	29
30 Song of Songs 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 or Psalm 72 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a- Worship Service 12:15p-Youth	31 9:15a-Staff Meeting					

The people of The United Methodist Church