

THE WESLEYAN

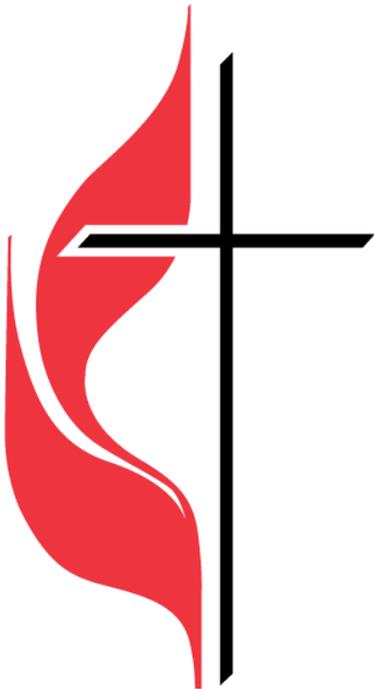
Fall 2019

Honey Brook United Methodist Church

4510 Horseshoe Pike, Honey Brook PA 19344

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Pastor Ray Voran revoran@gmail.com 717-333-6939



SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

FOOD AND CONVERSATION

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE



Pastor Ray has something to say...

“Committees, Committees, Committees”

We have a number of different committees in place to accomplish various tasks our church is supposed to accomplish. This is not unusual for churches. However, it may seem like The United Methodist Church goes overboard with all the committees. This leads to confusion about the committee’s purpose, responsibility, ministry and members.

I know we talked about this last year, but this issue will address the **Nurture, Outreach and Witness** Committees. I think it is easy to become confused with these...what exactly do they do?

In an effort to make things clearer, our Book of Discipline has the following things to say...

“**The nurturing ministries** of the congregation shall give attention to but not be limited to education, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups and stewardship. Attention must be given to the needs of individuals and families of all ages.”

“**The outreach ministries** of the church shall give attention to local and larger community ministries of compassion, justice and advocacy. These ministries include church and society, global ministries, higher education and campus ministry, health and welfare, Christian unity and interreligious concerns, religion and race and the status and role of women.”

“**The witness ministries** of the church shall give attention to developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; communications, Lay Servant Ministries and other means that give expressions of witness for Jesus Christ.”

Chaired by Jean Refford the **Committee on Nurture** has done things like visit and provide gifts for shut-ins and provide The Daily Bread and Upper Room devotional materials.

The Outreach Committee is led by Cathy Heagy and has been collecting back to school items, funds for the Society of St Andrews, collecting and distributing the scarves and mittens, etc. placed on the Christmas tree for the Salvation Army, Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes during the Christmas season and collections for Clare House, a woman’s shelter in Lancaster.

The Witness Committee is led by Karen Fellenbaum. This committee has organized community and church concerts as well as other activities. Karen was also in charge of our recent Peach Festival which was a great success both in terms of witness to the community, fellowship among all who helped, and raising funds as well! Karen has also been heading up the meals we serve at the Honey Brook Youth Center.

As a general rule of thumb:

The **Nurture ministry** is responsible for those who attend our church. Their mission is to provide care and assistance in helping us all grow as Disciples.

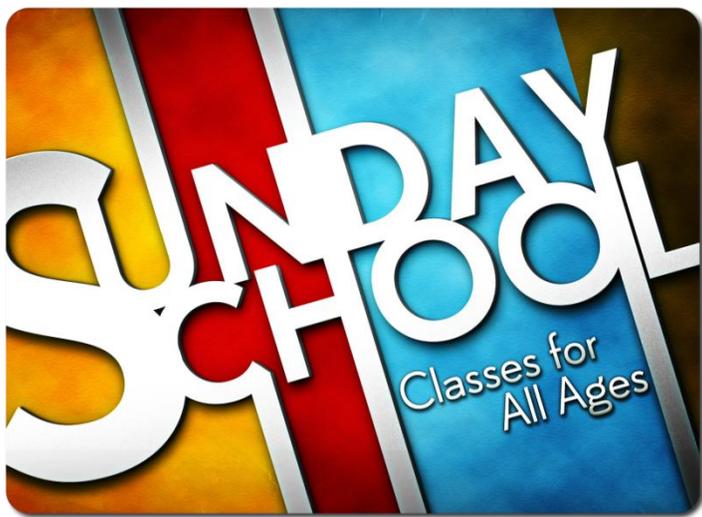
The **Witness and Outreach ministries** are responsible for those **outside our congregation**.

The **Outreach ministry** is more of “**good works**.”

The **Witness ministry** is more “**sharing the Gospel**.”

Naturally the dividing lines remain blurry. For example, we may have a concert or special program that is attended by members of the church and also those from the community. Or we collect items for the food bank as a way to meet physical needs but we also hope and pray that God will use these gifts to have a spiritual impact.

Of course nurturing one another, doing good works for others and being a witness for our Lord are simply aspects of being a true Disciple. As Christians it is our responsibility to be engaged in these activities on a regular basis, but I am glad we have church committees that intentionally participate in these efforts.



9:45 A.M. – 10:45 A.M. We hope you can attend and be a part of our Sunday School Ministry as we learn about what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus. The kids classes will begin on Sunday, September 15.



CHURCH PICNIC! We are planning a combined worship service and picnic on **Sunday, September 8 at Faith Hill** (across the street from Ranck's United Methodist Church 700 Ranck Rd, New Holland, PA).

The congregations of Rancks UMC and New Holland UMC will also be there! As we worship at the beautiful picnic grounds, the theme of our service will be Creation and will include a short message, children's time and plenty of music.

The worship service will begin at 10 AM with our picnic lunch following. Drinks, hot dogs, BBQ, and paper products will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. There are electric outlets for crockpots if needed. Ranck's

will supply a golf cart to bring people from the parking lot to the picnic pavilion. Several fun games and activities will follow lunch.

We hope everyone is able to attend and enjoy this event.

CHARGE CONFERENCE:

Our Charge Conference will be held on Thursday, October 17 at 6:30 PM at Leola United Methodist Church. That means the various committees will have to have their reports and work completed by the beginning of October. One change...this year the reports are all to be completed and submitted online. There are blank ones to use as guides only and they have been distributed to the appropriate people. Contact Pastor Ray with any questions.



MUSIC NOTES



THANK YOU TO THE PRAISE GROUP FOR LEADING THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON AUGUST 18 AND THANK YOU TOO TO EVERYONE WHO PROVIDED SPECIAL MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. NOW WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE RETURN OF THE CHOIR! FIRST REHEARSAL IS SEPTEMBER 4. WE ARE BLESSED BY OUR TALENTED INDIVIDUALS AND YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO BE A PART OF IT. CONTACT ASHLEY RUTT WITH ANY QUESTIONS

You're invited to

COME JOIN OUR

BIBLE



Study

**2nd and 4th
Thursdays**
of the month
2PM
**Fellowship
Hall**

Check the bulletin for the actual dates as things tend to change.

We are currently studying "The Way of a Disciple" Walking With Jesus by Don Cousins and Judson Poling.

We will soon finish this book and begin another study

Some dates to remember

Sept 14...church work day. The trustees plan to clean up the parking lot but there will also be cleaning and work to do in the church.

Sept 21. Harmony Day...we plan to have the church open and hand out popcorn and sell quilt tickets

Oct 28. Halloween Parade. We hope to have the Church open. We can provide hot drinks

Oct 31. Trick or Treating. We will hand out Popcorn again this year

PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR RAY IF YOU CAN HELP WITH ANY OF THESE EVENTS

SEEN ON A CHURCH SIGN:

CH__CH

WHAT IS MISSING?

BUSINESS INFO:

I want to share a little bit of information regarding church finances. You will notice that there are two lines on our offering envelopes. The one labeled "Improvement Fund" goes to the Trustees. This money is used primarily for the upkeep and repairs for the church property. The General Fund giving pays for the majority of the church expenses. Things like utilities and supplies, payroll and missions all come out of the general fund. Our apportionment payments also come out of the General Fund.

The apportionment is the amount that we pay to the Eastern PA Conference. Our monthly apportionment in 2019 has been approximately \$1585. This is divided into a number of different categories for the following purposes; Retirement and health care costs for present and also retired clergy and other eligible church employees (Pastor Ray and Val do not participate in the conference health plan so the church saves money here although there is still a mandatory fee), property and liability insurance for church property (this is also paid for by the Trustees at our church) worker's compensation insurance for church employees, our Eastern PA Conference budget, United Methodist missions around the world, United Methodist educational institutions and the various committees and denomination offices (organizations such as UMCOR). We have been able to pay 100% of our apportionment the past few years and we are on track to do so again in 2019. Thank you again for your generous support!

Please help us finish the year in a strong financial position!

GENERAL CONFERENCE 2020

-Delegates from around the world will participate in the next General Conference of the United Methodist Church in Minneapolis on May 5-15, 2020. While they will have plenty of items to deal with, the spotlight will be on the issues regarding LGBTQ individuals within the church. I realize that the news reports sometimes make it sound like the United Methodist Church has undergone tremendous changes in the past few years but the truth is that the Book of Discipline has not changed since the original statement was included in 1972. In fact, at the special General Conference earlier this year, the plan that passed was the most conservative of all the proposals.

At the same time, there are many within the denomination that disagree about how the Bible passages that deal with LGBTQ activity should be interpreted. Because of this, some churches and conferences around the country have chosen not to enforce the sections of the book of discipline that say that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching, that same sex marriages should not be performed and that practicing homosexuals are not to be ordained. As a denomination, we continue to wrestle with this issue and have attempted for many years to find a way to coexist.

Since this continues to be difficult, many believe that some type of a split is inevitable. Depending on what takes place at this General Conference in May, the process of splitting could commence or maybe another proposal would be approved that would ask each congregation to have an official vote to decide where they stand on this issue. Of course, we will see what happens.

Please join me in prayer for our denomination and also for wisdom for our congregation as we move forward and continue to represent our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Community Outreach



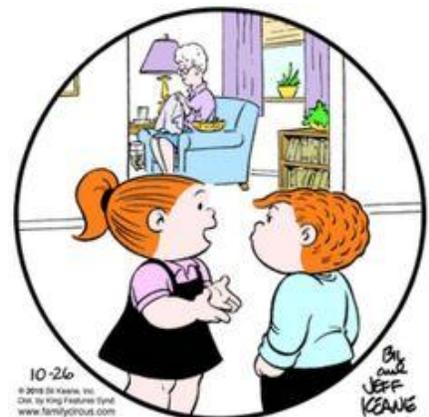
Honey Brook Youth Center Meals

“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.”

-Mark 9:36a

Be a part of sharing the love of Christ as we serve dinner to the children and youth at the Honey Brook Youth Center. We will continue this fall to serve supper approximately one evening each month. This is an important and rewarding ministry as we reach out to provide delicious meals and also a caring face or two.

Please contact [Karen Fellenbaum](#) if you would like to contribute your time or financial support. We ask that you pray for the children of Honey Brook. See church bulletin for dates and additional details.



10-26
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By
and
JEFF
KEANE

“The two places we know we’re always welcome are church and Grandma’s house.”

MIRACLES!

Beginning in September, we will be talking about miracles on Sunday mornings...there are plenty of miracles in the Bible so this is a series that will take us to all the way to Advent. In fact, we will resume after Christmas, and talk about miracles possibly all the way to Lent . We will talk mostly about the miracles of Jesus but look at some other ones as well. Jesus says some interesting things about the miracles as we discussed during the messages focusing on Phillip and Nathaniel in August. When Nathaniel first meets Jesus, he is impressed when Jesus informs him that He saw Nathaniel “sitting under the fig tree” (this may be a figure of speech which indicated that Nathaniel spent time in study and prayer). Jesus in effect says that this is really nothing to be impressed about, in fact his followers will witness far greater things...John 1:50-51 Jesus said, “You believe^[h] because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.”⁵¹ He then added, “Very truly I tell you,^[i] you^[i] will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’^[k] the Son of Man.”

Then during the last supper when Phillip asks Jesus to show us the father, Jesus replies in John 14:11¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.” In both cases, Jesus is saying that the miracles He performs should lead people to have faith in Him but they are miniscule compared to what He wants to do for each of us...Take away our sin, make us

new creations, grant us eternal life...that is the bigger miracle.

It seems that that “miracles” is really just another word for God doing what God does.

At the same time, God’s Word tells us about many miracles performed by Jesus and others too, (we will not nearly talk about all of them even in 4 or 5 months!) so we can be certain they are important and meaningful. As we look at some of the wonderful things that occurred, we will talk about the impact on the lives of the people involved and the lessons for all of us. It is my prayer that through these messages, we all grow as followers of Jesus Christ, come to know Him better, and become more willing to place ourselves and those close to us in His hands. He is trustworthy. He is good. He is loving. He is powerful! Perhaps as we look at some of the things He has done, our eyes will see a bit more clearly the things that He is doing all around us and within us each day.

And in order to help us have a clear picture of the various events that took place, we will have several of the miracles acted out (maybe in a updated version) during the worship service by the children and also by children of all ages!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN ONE OR MORE OF THESE DRAMATIC PRESENTATIONS, CONTACT PASTOR RAY. (there will be very little, if any, memorization required and it will probably even turn out to be kind of fun)

Blessings to all,

Pastor Ray

