

HOPEWELL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

'A Place to Find Hope and Be Well'

20220 Hopewell Road

Mount Vernon, OH 43050

*Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ
and minister to the needs of others in His name.*

September - October 2014

Pastor's Ponderings – *Pastor Lee Cubie*

WATER

HERACLITUS OF EPHEBUS, AN ANCIENT GREEK PHILOSOPHER BEFORE PLATO AND SOCRATES, ONCE WROTE, "THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE." ANOTHER WAY HE SAID THIS WAS TO SAY, "YOU CANNOT STEP INTO THE SAME RIVER TWICE." BEING A KAYAKER AND A LOVER OF WATER, I KNOW THIS IS TRUE, FOR THE WATER THAT YOU STEP IN ONE MOMENT WILL NEVER BE THE SAME THE NEXT, NO MATTER HOW COLD IT IS. THIS PAST MONTH HAS BEEN A VERY TUMULTUOUS ONE IN MY LIFE. THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT CHANGES, SAYING GOODBYE TO FRIENDS IN THE HOWARD CHARGE, SAYING HELLO TO TWO NEW CHURCHES FORMING A NEW CHARGE AND THE DEATH OF MY FATHER. LIKE WATER FLOWING IN A RIVER, MY LIFE NOW, IS FOREVER DIFFERENT.

WATER IS ALSO A SYMBOL OF ONE OF THE GREATEST CHANGES IN OUR LIVES, CHRISTIAN BAPTISM. WHEN WE ARISE OUT OF THE WATER IT SYMBOLIZES THE CHANGE THAT IS ALREADY BEGINNING IN OUR LIVES WHEN WE ACCEPT THE FORGIVENESS OF GOD THROUGH CHRIST FOR OUR SINS. AS THE WATER RUNS OFF OF OUR BODIES, OUR LUNGS GASPING FOR AIR, IT SYMBOLIZES THE FIRST BREATH IN A NEW LIFE MADE POSSIBLE IN CHRIST, AS WATER RUNNING OFF OF OUR BODIES IT SYMBOLIZES THE CLEANSING FROM AND THE LEAVING BEHIND OF SIN AND DEATH IN OUR LIVES. AS WE FOLLOW THE CALL OF THAT BAPTISM OUR LIVES SHOULD BE CONSTANTLY CHANGING. I KNOW THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO LIKE TO SAY THAT THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME. THAT MAY BE TRUE IN LIVES OUTSIDE OF COMMUNION WITH GOD, BUT IT SHOULD NEVER BE TRUE FOR ANY AND ALL WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN CHRIST.

THIS BRINGS ME TO A FINAL REFLECTION ON WATER. JESUS, IN CHAPTER FOUR OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN MEETS A SAMARITAN WOMAN BY A WELL. HER LIFE HAD GONE THROUGH MANY CHANGES SEEN IN HER MANY HUSBANDS AND THE MAN WITH WHOM SHE WAS NOW LIVING. SHE HAD SEEN MANY CHANGES, EVEN A CHANGE OF TITLE, NO LONGER A WIFE BUT SOMEONE WITHOUT PRIVILEGES OR RIGHTS. YOU COULD SAY HER LIFE HAD CHANGED BUT WAS STILL THE SAME. THEN SHE MET JESUS, WHO SAID TO HER, "IF YOU KNEW THE GIFT OF GOD, AND WHO IT IS THAT IS SAYING TO YOU, 'GIVE ME A DRINK,' YOU WOULD HAVE ASKED HIM, AND HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN YOU LIVING WATER." JESUS IS OUR LIVING WATER, ALWAYS LEADING US TO NEWNESS OF LIFE. IF WE ARE WITH HIM WE ARE ALWAYS CHANGING AND NEVER SATISFIED WITH WHAT WAS, WANTING TO BE FULLY FILLED UP WITH THAT LIVING WATER THAT TAKES AWAY THE THIRST OF THE WORLD. ARE YOU CHANGING YET STANDING STILL? OR ARE YOU CHANGING AND MOVING FORWARD IN YOUR LIFE WITH THE LIVING WATER, JESUS OF NAZARETH?



Pastor-Parish Relations Report – Barb Butler

The PPR Committee has met twice with Pastor Lee Cubie since his coming to Hopewell in July. The first meeting was a general discussion of the feelings or any concerns there might be from the congregation or Pastor Lee. All comments were very positive. The second meeting was held to prepare forms for the up-coming Charge Conference. The committee will meet with District Superintendent Dr. Bradley Call on September 18.

Rev. Dr. Bradley Call Appointed Three Rivers District Superintendent – adapted from *East Ohio Conference News*, 1/19/2014

Bishop John L. Hopkins appointed to the East Ohio cabinet, as superintendent of the Three Rivers District, the **Rev. Dr. Bradley G. Call** [photo on page 5].

“Brad is an effective pastor with much experience consulting with churches on Christian stewardship. He has helped many congregations articulate a vision for ministry and find joy in doing God’s work in their communities,” said Bishop Hopkins.

“I am very pleased to be appointed to serve in the Three Rivers District and will do my best to continue the good work being done there under the leadership of Jim Humphrey [whose served the district for six years],” Dr. Call said.

“I come to this role with a deep appreciation for the local church. I hold the perspective that just as the role of the local church is to serve its area, the district exists to support the local church in that work.”

Dr. Call began his ministry in the conference as the full-time student pastor of the Midvale UMC/Barnhill UMC/Newport UMC three-point charge (1978-1987), followed by Ninth Street United Methodist Church in Cambridge (1987-1995), and Roscoe United Methodist Church. He then served five years with the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) in the former Office of Finance and Field Service. There he assisted more than 100 churches in both capital and annual campaigns.

When the Evangelization and Church Growth unit of GBGM downsized in 2001, Dr. Call became a founding partner of Church Stewardship Consultants, LLC, providing capital campaign consulting to churches. During that time he also served in a half-time appointment with the United Methodist Foundation of New England, providing capital campaign consulting to churches of that conference. Most recently he served as senior pastor at Thoburn United Methodist Church in St. Clairsville (2005-present).

A graduate of Malone College, Rev. Dr. Call received his Master of Divinity from Ashland Theological Seminary (1985) and his Doctor of Ministry from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Sue, are parents of a daughter and a son.

Financial Statement -- Barb Butler, Treasurer 6/21/2014 – 8/21/2014

Checking Account

Beginning balance 6/21/2014	\$21,705.21
Receipts	\$5,574.95
Disbursements	(\$4,025.60)
Checking Balance 8/21/2014	\$23,254.56
<u>Bldg Fund Saving/certificates</u>	\$22,182.15

Follow Hopewell UMC...

...on the Web:

www.mvhopewellumc.org

...on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/HopewellUMCMtVernon

Follow Three Rivers District...

<http://3riversumc.org>

United Methodist Women Report -- Marsha Clayborne, UMW Secretary/Treasurer

The UMW met at the Hopewell Church on Tuesday, August 12. Twelve were in attendance for the 1 PM luncheon. Prayer was given by Pastor Lee Cubie. After the luncheon, the secretary and treasury report were given by Marsha Clayborne, and dues and missions offerings were collected. The group signed a 'thank you' card for Karolyn Smith for selling a total of 12 Ultimate Cloths for the UMW. Also a 'get well' card was signed for Eleanor Doup, and Barb Butler presented a lovely bouquet of flowers for Joan Coon to give to Eleanor. The group talked about where the extra "Upper Room" books could be distributed. Everyone agreed that the nursing homes would be a good place for people to have a chance to read them. Barb asked the group if anyone would be interested in attending the Three Rivers District UMW fall meeting at the Mulberry Street UMC in Mount Vernon Saturday, September 20.

Pastor Lee Cubie expressed how important mission work is for the community and for everyone. The group commented on participation in different projects throughout the year.

The program was then given by Jean Riley, who read the story about "Esther". After the reading, everyone was given a test to remember the different characters in the Bible story. Joan Coon read the devotions titled, "I Didn't Have Time."

The September UMW meeting will be **1 PM on Sep 9** at the home of Marsha Clayborne.

Since You Asked...About the Coin Jar – Barb Butler

If my memory serves me right, we started the coin jar to collect money for a mission project. After completing that project, the Admin Council decided to continue the jar to help cover any miscellaneous (small items) expenses when needed. To date, we have collected \$420.40 and used \$17.00 for children's chat favors and \$13.50 for palms for Palm Sunday. The balance of \$389.90 has been deposited in the church checking account. Each time the money is counted, if not needed, I make a deposit into the checking account. When emptying the jar, I note the amount in the Sunday Worship bulletin, along with the running total.

Toss Your Change in the Jar.

Don't let those heavy coins weigh down your purse and wear out pants pockets. You can lighten your load by dropping coins in the jar on the altar each week. It all adds up to make a difference. --RLJ



"Less about me, Lord, and more about you."

A Harvest Story (Matthew 13:1-8)

At about that same time Jesus left the house and sat on the beach. In no time at all a crowd gathered along the shoreline, forcing him to get into a boat. Using the boat as a pulpit, he addressed his congregation, telling stories.

"What do you make of this? A farmer planted seed. As he scattered the seed, some of it fell on the road, and birds ate it. Some fell in the gravel; it sprouted quickly but didn't put down roots, so when the sun came up it withered just as quickly. Some fell in the weeds; as it came up, it was strangled by the weeds. Some fell on good earth, and produced a harvest beyond his wildest dreams."



Thanks to the family and friends of Ralph "Butch" Smith, Sr., for the new sign that welcomes all to Hopewell UMC. The sign was purchased using gifts donated in memory of Butch Smith, Barb Smith Butler's brother.



Thanks to Gary and Shirley Hughes for creating and sponsoring this ad that will appear monthly in the *Apple Valley Cider Press*, reaching over 2500 homes.



HOPEWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

20220 Hopewell Rd. (Corner of Jacobs Rd.)

"A Place to find Hope and be Well"

Sunday School: 8:30 am

Worship Service: 9:30 am

Pastor Lee M. Cubie 740-504-8601

E-mail: cubielm@yahoo.com

www.mvhopewellumc.org

Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ

and minister to the needs of others in His name.

To Benefit Hopewell's Treasury...

...please sign up for or renew your annual membership in the Kroger Community Rewards by updating at www.krogercommunityrewards.com using the organization number 91901. or call Linda Joseph (740-326-6272) or Barb Butler (740-398-9868).

Please pray for...

...our troubled world, where tensions and violence seem to increase daily.
...Rev. Dr. Bradley Call, as he leads Three Rivers District.
...our men and women in uniform and their families.
...our young students...and their teachers...as they begin a new school year.
...the community within and around Hopewell UMC.
...the hurts, needs and cares that all of us bear silently.

Birthdays

September

- 4 Natalie Gourley
- 5 Virginia Skinner
- 7 Corby Coon
- 14 Ron Skinner
- 15 Jessica Hartney
- 15 Rylanne Kanuckel-Wolfe
- 18 Jean Riley
- 18 Bob Kaiser
- 22 Cary Purcell
- 24 Eleanor Doup
- 24 Marsha Clayborne
- 25 Don Russell

October

- 5 Shirley Hughes
- 8 Ellie Purcell
- 17 Pete Lawhon
- 18 Bev Lahmon
- 19 Erika Kanuckel-Wolfe
- 21 Aubrey Purcell
- 22 Elaine Farie

Enthusiasm is the greatest asset in the world. It beats money and power and influence. It is no more or less than faith in action.

– Henry Chester

Photo Gallery



Rev. Dr. Bradley Call,
Three Rivers District
Superintendent



Vision Team meeting at the Josephs'
home on Aug 20



"Bring a friend to church"
Pastor Lee transports "George" to
HUMC for the Children's Moment.

Vision Team Update – Bob Joseph

Seventeen members of the Vision Team met at 6 PM on August 20 at the Josephs' home for a potluck dinner and discussion.

Following some wonderful and plentiful food, the group spent time in completing the phrase, "I remember when....". The memories included:

- *Children's Sunday School was once held in the office, with nine or so youth.
- *The annual Christmas pageant included recitations by church youth.
- *Typical church attire included hats/gloves for women and suits/ties for men.
- *A pianist accompanied a choir that sang from the choir loft.
- *A series of student pastors provided preaching, usually staying for two years.
- *Some youth activities were held at Grove Church or Epworth UMC.

In recent years the Hopewell congregation has made new 'memories', including: the Easter sunrise service; a new organ and music provided by Irma Newland; an indoor restroom facility; ceiling fans; a sound system; a feeling of independence, strength and community that arose from separating from Epworth; and attendance growth.

The team discussed possible goals for 2015. Among the ideas offered were:

*Strengthen evangelism skills of the congregation. Church growth comes through a concerted, intentional effort.

*Review the committee structure and function to improve the effectiveness of church committees.

*Make Hopewell UMC's presence known in the community through programs and media. Use multiple approaches...there's no single, simple solution.

-Suggested programs for community outreach, included a wellness program, financial responsibility classes, and premarital counseling, and special events, e.g., blessing the animals and concerts.

- Advertise in the media (radio ads, Cider Press, Weekly Shopper, KnoxWays)

*Keep and kindle the community atmosphere at Hopewell UMC; talk through differences when they arise.

Next meeting: 6 PM on Wed., **Nov 12**, at Donatos Pizza, 221 W. High Street, Mt. Vernon.