

HOPEWELL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

'A Place to Find Hope and Be Well'

20220 Hopewell Road

Mount Vernon, OH 43050

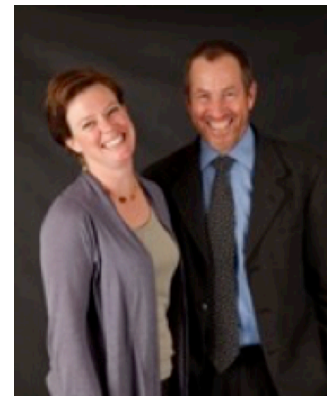
*Our mission is to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ
and minister to the needs of others in His name.*

August - September 2018

Pastor's Ponderings -- Pastor Lee Cubie

Miracles--Wonders, Signs and Works

On the sixth of July 1984 David Edward Jenkins a noted British theologian became, The Right Reverend Father in God, David Edward Jenkins, by Divine Providence, Lord Bishop of Dunham. Bishop Jenkins became the first British Bishop to openly deny the Virgin Birth of Jesus. He did not believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus, and he did not believe in miracles. His disbelief in miracles, of which the Virgin Birth and the bodily resurrection of Jesus are prime examples, probably stemmed from an understanding of miracles as a violation of the laws of nature. Three days later, on July ninth, at 2:35 am, lightning struck the Cathedral of York where he lived and preached. Bishop Jenkins was forced to flee.



Many who opposed Mr. Jenkins becoming a bishop, saw the lightning strike as an act of God against his appointment--in other words, a miraculous intervention, by God upon the stage of the official English church. Those who were in favor of his appointment denied the miraculous and said that it was just lightning. So, what is a miracle?

"What a miracle?" "What a marvel?" "What a wonder?" These are phrases that people use to describe something out of the ordinary, such as your child cleaning their room without being asked. And that is how people respond to the miracles in the Bible. They are often seen as wonders...extra ordinary events that are outside of human experience. We often use the word supernatural, which means they are not of the natural world, cannot be described by science or the laws of nature. This description of miracles is unfortunate. It has even been used by some theologians to deny the miracles of Jesus, because, they say, "God would not break the laws of nature." So much for a good education.

So, what are miracles in the scripture? What is happening in a miracle? What is the purpose of a miracle? To begin, a little vocabulary is helpful. The English words used in the bible are wonders, miracle, sign, and work. The Greek word for "wonder" is sometimes translated as portent, or omen. These words are used to translate the Greek word *teras*. *Dunamis* is the Greek word translated as "miracle." It is the root word that we get our English words dynamite, dynamo and dynamic. *Dunamis* is also translated as power, might, strength, force and even ability or capability. The Greek word *semeion* is translated as "sign," a distinguishing mark or signal. The last Greek word is *ergon*, it basically means "work, deed, practical proof." As we can see, these are ordinary words. There is nothing extra ordinary about them. Indeed, you could use them in a sentence to describe the activity of an ordinary person. You could say of Walt Whitman that his poem, "O Captain! My Captain!" is as powerful (*dunamis*) a work (*ergon*) on the assassination of Lincoln as any could read. They are a sign (*semeion*) of Lincoln's importance to the nation and makes one wonder (*teras*) what is to come. In those sentences there is nothing out of the ordinary and nothing religious.

So, what is a miracle? From the words used in scripture, a miracle is a work of God. William Barclay writes, concerning the miracles of Jesus in the New Testament, that "(i)n any miracle, then, there are three things. There is the *wonder*, which leaves men dazzled, astonished, aghast. There is the *power*, which is effective, which can deal with and mend a broken body, an unhinged mind, a bruised heart, a power that can do things. There is the *sign*, which tells us of the love in the heart of God who does such things for men." So, what is a miracle? A miracle is God at work, getting the attention of you and me, and letting us know that he is God and he loves us. That is what a miracle is.

So, what about the lightning strike at the cathedral? Was that a miracle? Well, now we come to our part in miracles. Jesus is fond of saying, "Those who have ears to hear, let them hear, and those who have eyes, let them see!" What is he talking about? As you know, he is talking about faith. In order to see a miracle, you need to have faith. Someone once said, "In times of little faith there are few miracles, but in times of great faith there are many miracles." When we read in Exodus of God causing the east wind to blow, and thus parting the sea, we are reading a faithful interpretation of a natural act. Someone could say the Israelites got lucky. People of faith say God acted to redeem his people. When we read of the resurrection of Jesus, someone could say, his disciples faked it. And in fact, the authorities in Jerusalem spread that rumor. Augustine of Hippo once wrote, concerning the feeding of the multitudes, that he was amazed that the little act of creating bread and fish out of nothing creates a big stir—while the magnificent miracle of creation out of nothing got short shrift.

So, what about that lightning strike?

Hopewell's Foundation Families – William P. Smith – by Marsha Clayborne

[This article is another product of Marsha's research about families who are memorialized in the beautiful stained glass windows at Hopewell Church.]

William Philip Smith was born on July 29, 1834, in Virginia to William Philip and Mary Hays Smith. He married Rebecca Bebout from New Jersey, and she was born on March 9, 1836. They had six children: James Henry, William Reno, Calvin Enoch, Mary, Sarah, and Eliza. William P. was a Civil War veteran, a long time farmer in Knox County, and a member of the Hopewell Church and of Pleasant Grange. At a meeting held in Danville on April 6, 1872, a committee of three from each society was appointed to confer upon the subject of dividing the circuit into appointments. The Hopewell United Methodist Church was represented by William P. Smith, C. Hurford, and William J. Smith. William P. was involved in many of the events held at Hopewell Church. William P. passed away on April 8, 1896. Along with his wife and some family members, William P. Smith is buried at the Hopewell Cemetery.



United Methodist Women Report - Marsha Clayborne, Secretary

The UMW met for lunch at Jake's Restaurant on Tuesday, July 10 with eight members and three guests. Jean Riley and Ellen Kaiser were the hosts for the July meeting. Barb Butler started the meeting, and Marsha Clayborne gave the secretary and treasury report; dues and missions were collected. The group discussed the school supply drive for this year and to help the local school in need. A container in the back of the Sunday School room will be marked "School Supply Drive." Items will be collected until Sunday August 12. A local family with a baby has been in the hospital since birth, and the UMW donated a check to help the family with expenses. Barb had an idea about markers for the hymnals. The markers will help in keeping track of songs and scriptures in the songbooks. The program started and Jean Riley read an article from the "Upper Room" about the anger and anguish of David. It showed a picture on the cover of David with his hands reaching out in prayer. Jean also read Psalm 143 to the group. Jean's daughter, Vicki Yusko, handed out a game called People, Places, and Things. The next meeting will be at the home of Marsha Clayborne on Tuesday, August 7.



UMW Church Family Picnic - Marsha Clayborne, Secretary

The UMW Church Family Picnic was held at the Hopewell Church on Tuesday, June 12 at 6:00 PM. The picnic had to be relocated from the shelter house in Gambier due to rain. Everyone had a good time enjoying the food, fun, and fellowship throughout the evening. There were a total of 21 picnickers at the church. Bob Joseph did a great job as auctioneer for the silent auction. Leah and Natalie Gourley and Adam Lawhon were runners for the event. A big 'thank you' to Bob, Leah, Natalie and Adam. A total of \$238 was collected from many generous donations. The UMW would like to thank everyone who attended, brought food, and supplied items for the silent auction.

Meet a Hopewell Member: *Beverly Armstrong Lahmon*

Bev Lahmon has been among the ‘regulars’ at Hopewell UMC since the late 1950’s, although she and son Tim just became members in 1999.

Beverly Armstrong, the youngest of three children, was born and raised on Mt. Vernon’s west side. At age 6, she was baptized in the Kokosing River by her father, a minister in the Reorganized Mormon Church. Since his small congregation met every Sunday in their family home, Bev recalls carrying chairs and tables up from basement storage each week; and everyone stayed for dinner after church. Her upbringing did not include playing cards, dancing, or going to movies. It did include walking a mile each way to junior high and high school—and walking home for lunch—each day; only occasionally would she catch a ride with a friend’s father. In school, Bev enjoyed the bookkeeping and typing classes, substantially more than history class.



At a Weaver Grange square dance, Beverly Armstrong caught Stanley Lahmon’s eye, and they began dating. Then Stanley was drafted into the Army for two years’ service as a helicopter repairman. After his return in October 1958, Stanley and Bev made wedding plans; but when her family lost everything in the flood of January 1959, Bev thought her wedding would have to be postponed. With her mother’s reassurance, Bev and Stanley were married on June 21, 1959, in Hopewell Methodist Episcopal Church (which became Hopewell UMC in 1968).



Bev worked at Ringwalt’s, Woolworths and Sears, and attended business school. Stanley was employed at, and in 1994 retired from, American National Can. In the early years, they went square dancing somewhere (Morgan Grange, Weaver Grange, and elsewhere) about every Saturday night. They moved to Stanley’s grandparents’ home on Hopewell Road, where Bev lives now, and remodeled it extensively.

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There have been many joys in her life, including her children: Tom worked on oil wells, the state highway department, and is now retired but continues to drive trucks; Tim, an OSU Ag Tech Institute and MVNU grad, was a much loved employee at ‘the Naz’; and Lieutenant Colonel Charles, also a MVNU grad and doctor of divinity, is an Army chaplain. She counts as joys her 12 grandchildren and 2+ great grandchildren. Also, she enjoys playing euchre at the Mt. Vernon Station Break, Eastern Star and Wooster Senior Center.

And there have been trials and heartbreaks, including the deaths of a preemie newborn daughter, her husband Stanley in 1995, and son Tim just a few years ago.

As her connection with the Hopewell church family has been a source of comfort and strength, so also has she been faithful in serving and comforting others. Bev joined Stanley in attending Hopewell church before they were married. Many friends and neighbors also attended HUMC. Since the 1960s she has taken an active part in United Methodist Women (formerly Women’s Society in Christian Service).

In recent years she has baked bread for Holy Communion and has crocheted many afghans for others. She remembers the good times serving lunches for gas company and Producers Livestock events. In recent years, serving the CES Credit Union dinners has similarly brought the congregation together. Bev says she likes everything about HUMC, especially the friendliness of the people; she thinks highly of Pastor Lee Cubie; and she wouldn’t want to go any place else.

Hopewell Family Photo Album – part 1



Isaac Hartney, grandson of Barb Butler, graduated (no doubt with honors) from pre-Kindergarten.

(Above) With an apple and snake skin in hand, Pastor Lee told the youth, “The first temptation was not to believe.”

(Below) During Youth Yak, the youth composed a letter of encouragement to HUMC member Eleanor Doup—who replied with a wonderful ‘thank you’ note to them.



Erin Lawhon awarded a scholarship

Erin Lawhon is one of three Knox County students to be awarded the Tom Rastin Engineering Scholarship, valued at \$5,000, by the Ariel Foundation.

Erin graduated from Mount Vernon High School in 2016 and is a junior at Grace College (Winona Lake, IN) in the mechanical engineering program. She has maintained a 3.85 GPA, has been on the dean’s list and was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success this past fall. Erin is the daughter of Ryan and Sara Rupp. -- adapted from KnoxPages report

Birthdays

August

- 1 Mick Gourley Sr.
- 4 Danielle Kanuckel
- 11 Bob Cornwell
- 15 Gina Lawhon
- 16 Linda Joseph
- 18 Irma Newland
- 19 Bonnie Lawhon
- 27 Wayne Clayborne
- 30 Bill Lawhon
- 30 John Johnson
- 31 Seth Lawhon

September

- 2 George Ander
- 4 Natalie Gourley
- 5 Virginia Skinner
- 7 Corby Coon
- 8 Julie Britton
- 14 Cheryl McCracken
- 14 Ron Skinner
- 15 Jim Ingalls
- 15 Jessica Hartney
- 15 Rylanne Kanuckel-Wolfe
- 18 Jean Riley
- 18 Bob Kaiser
- 20 Dorothy Ander
- 22 Cary Purcell
- 23 Kathy Kanuckel
- 24 Eleanor Doup
- 24 Marsha Clayborne
- 25 Amelia Kanuckel

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When was The United Methodist Church created? – produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications

The United Methodist Church was created on April 23, 1968, when The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church joined to form a new denomination. Uniting the two churches had been in the making for more than 10 years. Two years before the union, the General Conferences of each church separately approved the Plan of Union.

On April 23, Bishop Reuben H. Mueller, representing The Evangelical United Brethren Church, and Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke of The Methodist Church joined hands at the constituting General Conference in Dallas, Texas. In unison, the two bishops, 1,300 delegates and 10,000 visitors recited these words:

"Lord of the Church, we are united in Thee, in Thy Church and now in The United Methodist Church. Amen."

To make the union happen, each denomination made compromises. The racially segregated Central Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church was eliminated, women clergy were assured the right to be ordained and have full clergy rights, and the Methodist practice of life tenure for bishops was adopted.

The Uniting Conference also approved the development of an official insignia for the new church, and **the cross and flame** was adopted later that year. [The twin tongues of flame represent the two denominations in the merger.]

Late in the conference, delegates realized that the work of actual uniting could not be completed in 1968. A special session of General Conference was approved for 1970. It met in St. Louis.

Thus these two churches, each with distinguished histories and influential ministries in various parts of the world, came together to become the largest Protestant denomination at that time.



There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.

Edith Wharton, writer



I'm proud to be a Methodist (sung to the tune of Lee Greenwood's "I'm proud to be an American")

Where at least the coffee's free
And I won't forget the man named John
Or his brother Charles Wesley.

And I'll gladly stand up!

To sing the hymns

With the organ's harmony.

So there ain't no doubt I love this church.

God Bless the UMC!

--Greg Austin, *United Methodist Memes*

Hopewell Family Photo Album – part 2



(Clockwise from top left)

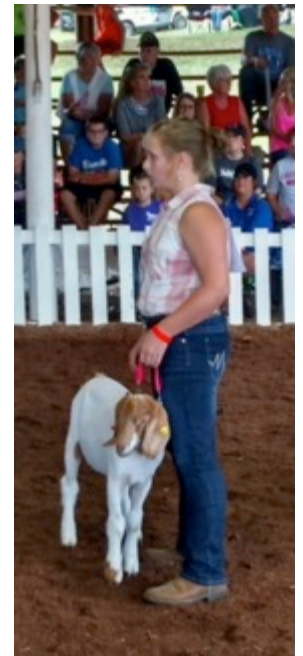
Annika Kanuckel-Wolfe in costume as one of the Ancestors from MTVArts *The Addams Family*; with her mother Erika and cousin Amelia. *(photo by John Wolfe)*

Natalie and Leah Gourley *(top, top right, right, lower right)* exhibited in goat showmanship competition at the Knox County Fair. Leah earned a 3rd place ribbon. *(photos by Mickey Gourley)*

Exhibiting at the county fair is exhausting--for parents, too. Bitsi and Mickey Gourley demonstrate how they survived the week. *(photo by Lee Cubie)*

Rylanne Kanuckel-Wolfe proudly exhibited a pen of three rabbits at the fair. *(photo by John Wolfe)*

We are proud of the Hopewell youth...and their parents!



If anyone ever tells you your dreams are silly, just remember there's a millionaire walking around who invented the pool noodle.

Hopewell Family Photo Album – part 3



The Lahmon family’s work paid off with much success, as described by Jade Lahmon:

“Jack (*top left*) placed 2nd with his steer and 4th in his showmanship class. We were so happy he was feeling well enough to show.

“Sam (*top middle*) placed 5th with his steer and 1st in his showmanship class.

“Emma (*top right, bottom right*) was 5th overall with her steer and 3rd overall senior beef showman. She is the 2018 Beef Ambassador and the recipient of the 2018 David Greer Award presented by the Kiwanis Club of Mount Vernon. She really enjoyed being on the Knox County Junior Fair Board this year. She was interviewed for the radio to explain what it’s like to be a junior fair board member and was on the front page of the news for the David Greer award.

“Josh (*left*) was also asked to be the Beef Barn superintendent this year. We have made some unforgettable memories!!! “



Elaine “Oakley” Farie took an impromptu lesson in .22 rifle marksmanship from Audra Cubie on a recent, sunny Sunday after church. Raccoons, be warned!
(*photo by Audra Cubie*)

Bob and Linda Joseph donated this toy box barn for sale in the 4-H silent auction.



~ August 2018 ~						
← July 2018						September 2018 ►
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 National Girlfriends Day B'day: Mick Gourley, Sr	2 National Ice Cream Day	3 International Beer Day B'day: Danielle Kanuckel	4 International Hangover Day US Coast Guard Day
5 Friendship Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Holy Communion	6 Wiggle Your Toes Day	7 National Lighthouse Day 11:30 AM UMW at Marsha Clayborne's	8 Sneak Some Zucchini onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day	9 Book Lover's Day	10 National S'mores Day	11 Presidential Joke Day B'day: Bob Cornwell
12 Middle Child's Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Refreshments	13 Left Handers Day	14 National Creamsicle Day 6 PM Vision Team at Lawhons	15 Relaxation Day B'day: Gina Lawhon	16 National Tell-a-Joke Day B'day: Linda Joseph	17 Chinese Valentine's Day	18 Bad Poetry Day B'day: Irma Newland
19 National Potato Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship B'day: Bonnie Lawhon	20 National Radio Day	21 Senior Citizens Day	22 National Tooth Fairy Day	23 Ride the Wind Day	24 Vesuvius Day B'day: Mick Kanuckel	25 Kiss and Make Up Day
26 Womens' Equality Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	27 Global Forgiveness Day B'day: Wayne Clayborne	28 Race Your Mouse Day	29 More Herbs, Less Salt Day	30 Toasted Marshmallow Day B'day: Bill Lawhon B'day: John Johnson	31 National Eat Outside Day B'day: Seth Lawhon	Notes:

~ September 2018 ~						
☞ August 2018						October 2018 ☜
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30						1 National Cherry Popover Day
2 V-J Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Holy Communion B'day: George Ander	3 Labor Day	4 Newspaper Carriers Day B'day: Natalie Gourley	5 Be Late for Something Day B'day: Virginia Skinner	6 Fight Procrastination Day	7 National Salami Day B'day: Corby Coon	8 International Literacy Day B'day: Julie Britton
9 Grandparents Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship/Refreshments	10 Swap Ideas Day	11 Patriot Day	12 National Video Games Day	13 Defy Superstition Day Fortune Cookie Day	14 National Cream-Filled Donut Day B'day: Cheryl McCracken B'day: Ron Skinner	15 Make a Hat Day B'day: Jim Ingalls B'day: Jessica Hartney B'day: Rylanne Kanuckel-Wolfe
16 American Legion Day Mexican Independence Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	17 Constitution Day Citizenship Day	18 National Cheeseburger Day B'day: Jean Riley B'day: Bob Kaiser	19 Yom Kippur International Talk Like a Pirate Day	20 National Pepperoni Pizza Day B'day: Dorothy Ander	21 International Peace Day	22 Business Women's Day International Rabbit Day B'day: Cary Purcell
23 Autumn Equinox Dog in Politics Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship B'day: Kathy Kanuckel	24 National Cherries Jubilee Day B'day: Eleanor Doup B'day: Marsha Clayborne	25 National Comic Book Day B'day: Amelia Kanuckel	26 Johnny Appleseed Day	27 Crush a Can Day	28 National Good Neighbor Day Native American Day	29 Confucius Day
30 National Mud Pack Day 8:30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	Notes:					

Hopewell United Methodist Church

c/o Bob & Linda Joseph, newsletter editors
241 Valleybrook Circle
Howard, OH 43028



Calendar of Selected Events/Activities

Sunday, Aug 5	Communion Sunday; Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Bring food for Interchurch pantry
Tuesday, Aug 7	UMW meeting at Marsha Clayborne's home, 11:30 AM.
Sunday, Aug 12	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Refreshments
Tuesday, Aug 14	Vision Team (see below)
Sunday, Aug 19 & 26	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM
Sunday, Sep 2	Communion Sunday; Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Bring food for Interchurch pantry
Sunday, Sep 9	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM; Refreshments
Sunday, Sep 16, 23 & 30	Sunday school, 8:30 AM; Worship, 9:30 AM

Vision Team Meeting on August 14

The HUMC Vision Team (of which everyone in the Hopewell congregation is a valued member) will meet on Tuesday, August 14 from 6 to 8 PM at the Lawhons' home (7052 Beckholt Road, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050) for a potluck dinner and discussion. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Main dish (brats, hamburgers, and hot dogs), beverages, and tableware will be provided.

Many vital changes have emerged from Vision Team discussions, including the capital campaign in 2015-2016; prioritized use of the campaign funds; and the church building centennial celebration in 2015 and 2016.

Please consider investing some time to 1) enjoy a meal and fellowship and 2) brainstorm about plans and programs for the remainder of 2018 and 2019--What should we do to further the kingdom of God in our church and community?

RSVP by Sunday, August 12 to Bob/Linda Joseph at 614-565-1102 or rjoseph4@columbus.rr.com.