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If you have something that you feel should go into the newsletter, please feel free to contact me by phone, or email listed above. Your articles of information are always a help in communicating to our church family.

Ron Kinsey
Administrative Assistant

New Life News

September 2020

Volume 8 Issue 5



Pastor's Ponderings

Try Softer

The phrase, "**Try Softer**" has been simmering inside of me since I read it. It is a key component of **The Me I Want To Be - Becoming God's Best Version of You** worship series we will begin on Sept. 13th (based on the book by the same title by John Ortberg).

For much of my life I was taught that growing spiritually into God's best version of me involves certain prescribed spiritual disciplines. For example, early morning devotional time, daily writing in a journal, praying for a certain length of time in a certain way, etc. John Ortberg, defines a spiritual discipline as, "*simply an activity you engage in to be made more fully alive by the Spirit of God*". I have seen this come to life in a new way as I have re-read about the lives of many persons in the Bible. No two people grew to become God's best version of them in the same way.

This means I have to

change how I think about what "counts" as spiritual, for what makes an activity spiritual is NOT the activity itself. It is whether or not I do it with and through the Spirit of God. It is the quality of the presence and interaction with the Spirit while I am doing the activity. In fact many times the people in the Gospels who got into the most trouble with Jesus were the ones who thought they were working hardest on their spiritual life.

The river of living water, God's Spirit, is always ready to guide you toward God's best version of you.

I encourage you to participate in our worship series, either on-line or in person, and read the book (see information below). I invite you to try softer, try better, and try different to engage the Spirit of God in ways that make you more fully alive. I would like to hear how this is working out for you.

Pastor Tim

See information on page 3, about our new worship series "**The Me I Want To Be**", coming in September

Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
Our Vision is to be Rooted in Jesus, to know, grow, and share His love.



Circle of Friends News

O.K., we have waited a while and plans are in the works for our Circle to meet. This being said, we have set a time, date and place the last Monday of September - Monday, September 28th, at 2:00pm (note time change, not 7pm), place: Lakeside park on Lincoln Avenue, in Lakeview. (In case of rain, it will be at New Life). Masks can be worn or not at the park, but please wear a mask if it is at New Life. Thanks! We are looking at ways for our group to connect with each other, so put on your thinking caps... we need ideas!

Everything is different now, as you have heard over and over - we are in this together, let's think of ways we can still connect.

Thank you - see you on Monday, September 28th, at 2pm.
Sue B

More UMW news...

By this time each year our UMW would have had some fundraisers, such as bake sales for example. Since there isn't a way to have that kind of sale, we have to improvise... so we are having a Bakeless Bake Sale. You may or may not know what this is, so let us explain.

When you bake for one of our fabulous bake sales, it takes time and \$\$\$.

- * First you pick out what you want to make, make a list.
 - * Then you drive to the store, oh you need gas to get to the store. \$\$\$
 - * You pick up the groceries. \$\$\$
 - * Oh forgot something, stop at another store. \$\$
 - * You mix the ingredients.
 - * Turn on your electric or gas stove. \$\$\$
 - * Plate and wrap your items. \$\$\$
 - * Drive to deliver the items. (more gas) \$\$\$
- O.K. so, add up all of the \$\$\$, instead just send in a donation to New Life UMW. Just that easy.

This will help us continue to support our monthly missions - Kids to Kids (a Heifer project) and New Life mission of the month. Checks can be given to Cindy Andersen or Sue Brockschmidt, written to New Life UMW. Thank you in advance!

Upcoming Bible Study

page 2

A book with a four-week study came to our attention through the UMW reading program. When I saw the title, I thought this is it, something for now. The book title is "Finding Peace in an Anxious World", edited by Erin James-Brown. This is based on the serenity prayer:

*God, grows me the serenity,
To accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And the wisdom to know the difference.*

We are talking about a once a week, four-week study, with dates to be announced. If you are interested in this study, the book provided is \$10. Dates will most likely be late September into October.

If you are interested, please give me a call.
Sue Brockschmidt - 989.352.6176.

Operation Christmas Child - 2020

The Mission of the Month for September, at New Life UMC will support Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child. This is a way to send the love of Jesus, through a shoebox for Christmas, to children around the world.

This year we are asking for funds to support this project. Missy will organize this event with the funds to purchase the supplies and the kids, with guidance from Missy, will pack the shoeboxes. She will take the funds given and buy supplies for the boxes. She will set a date and will help the kids pack these boxes safely.

The Missions Team supports this idea and would like to see some shoeboxes come from New Life UMC. We thank Missy Williams for her continued help with our New Life kids.

A Note From The Missions Team

The donations can be put into the offering basket any Sunday in September. Checks can be made out to New Life UMC, with a memo "Operation Christmas Child".

Thank You

September Prayer

(You are encouraged to pray this prayer daily for New Life United Methodist Church)

I pray that out of God's glorious riches God may strengthen us with power through his Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And I pray that we, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.
Ephesians 3:16-2

The Me I Want To Be *Worship Series*

page 3

There is a me I want to be! There is a me you want to be!

Only God knows your full potential, and he is guiding you toward that best version of yourself all the time. Your life is to continually be receiving power from the Spirit of God to become the person God had in mind when he created you - his handiwork. When you are living the me you want to be, God's best version of you, you become more you. You don't just become holier. You become you-ier. God wants to redeem you, not exchange you.

There is a me I want to be! There is a me you want to be!

We do not simply drift into becoming the best version of ourselves. It can easily be missed. Becoming the person we want to be happens when our spirits are rooted in and shaped by the Spirit of God. Discovering how God wants to do that in a way that uniquely fits you is the purpose of our fall worship series.

There is a me I want to be! There is a me you want to be!

Beginning Sept 13th we will be journeying together through a six week worship series entitled, "**The Me I Want To Be - Becoming God's Best version of You**". I encourage you to participate in each week of the worship - either on-line or in person, and to read the book.

Read the Book: The book, "*The Me I Want To Be*" by John Ortberg will be available for purchase for \$10 in the entry/narthex beginning Sept 13th.

Plan on journeying together to become God's best version of you.



Blood Drive

New Life United Methodist Church

6584 W. Howard City Edmore Rd.
Six Lakes

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

12:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

For info or appointment, visit redcrossblood.org
(sponsor code: New Life UMC) or call 1-800-733-2767



September 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>*Pastor Tim & Paula on vacation this week</i>	1 *	2 * 9:30a TOPS 10a Pryr & Care Team	3 * NO Virtual Coffee Brk 5:30p Cardio Drumming	4 *	5 *
6 8:30a Worship 10a Worship 11a Sunday School	7 Labor Day Office closed	8	9 9:30a TOPS 7p SPRC Gov Sub Tm	10 10a Virtual Coffee Brk 5:30p Cardio Drumming 7p Nominations	11	12
13 8:30a Worship 10a Worship 11a Sunday School	14 5:30p Cardio Drumming 5:45p TOPS	15	16 9:30a TOPS 10a Pryr & Care Team 6:30p Gov Brd	17 10a Virtual Coffee Brk 5:30p Cardio Drumming	18	19
20 8:30a Worship 10a Worship 11a Sunday School	21 5:30p Cardio Drumming 5:45p TOPS	22 Autumn begins	23 9:30a TOPS	24 10a Virtual Coffee Brk 5:30p Cardio Drumming	25	26 Ntl & Global Day of Prayer & Repentance
27 8:30a Worship 10a Worship 11a Sunday School	28 5:30p Cardio Drumming 5:45p TOPS	29 12-5:45p RC Bld Dr 6:30p Worship Team	30 9:30a TOPS 11a Pryr & Care Team			

ANNIVERSARY CORRECTION FROM

LAST MONTH:

Kenny & Maggie Franklin 08/18

There had been a problem with Kenny and Maggie's marriage info in our church software, so that my reports did not pick up their marriage date. I appologize for the error that has continued for too long.

FIXED NOW

Anniversaries in September

Marv & D'Ann Fountain	09/12
Kevin & Michelle Outman	09/14
Carl & Jane Large	09/15
Michael & Jessica Peterson	09/22
Mike & Ann Minkel	09/24

Birthdays in September

Bob Sadler	09/01
Gilda Nichols	09/06
Elmer Ashbaugh	09/12
Deloris Ingall	09/14
Drew Molitor	09/14
Nancy Shepard	09/20
Audrey Crane	09/23
Mary Lou Botrma	09/26

Sanctuary Audio/Visual Project Update

The Hearing Loop Sound System is in place and is working. If your hearing aids are "T" or "Telecoil" enabled, you should be hearing our worship better. Just a reminder, if you are hard of hearing and do not have hearing aids, there are two hearing assist devices in the sound both with three different ear attachments. Ask the person in the sound booth if you would like to use one. These are cleaned after each use. Please let the sound booth person know if you have problems hearing the service so we can see make it better for you and the other people.

We have the three new wireless microphones. These are working well with the Loop System. The new computer and camera are in the process of being installed as well. The new sound board will be here in the next month.

I am writing this to let you know where we are in using the financial gifts given for this project and to thank you for your giving and faithfulness. We are about \$3,000 short of what is needed. I believe God is telling us to proceed with this project to help reach those that do not know Him as their Savior. Please consider helping financially to complete this project. We continue to need your prayers and support.

Bonnie Buckner for the Worship Team.

Others on the Worship Team: Pastor Tim Wright; Linda Andersen, Cindy Andersen; Dorothy Farrell; Kathy Gunderman; Myrna Walldorff; Linda Seiter

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“When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong
in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure.”
—Peter Marshall

