



Fellowship Report

From the Editor

Below is a prayer taken from a book called Guerrillas of Grace, which was written by Pastor Ted Loder, retired minister of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. Loder was the senior minister of the First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG), for nearly 38 years. This church, under Loder's leadership, provided sanctuary for a Guatemalan family in the 80s, became a Reconciling Congregation, advocating for the rights of homosexual persons, and was active in many issues of social justice and political activism.

I like his prayers because of the imagery. His wording seems to shed new light onto common aspects of petitioning our God. I hope you enjoy the following prayer, taken from the "Thanks and Praise" section of his book.



Praise from All Creatures

Praise be to you, O Lord,
 who spins shining stars across the wondrous heavens.
 and stretches out the seas,
 who lifts the dawn into place
 and sets boundaries for night,
 who awes the earth with storms
 and gentles it with green,
 who gives everything a season
 and breathes life and love into the dust of me.
 Praise be to you.

Praise in all things,
 for all things:
 the soft slant of sunlight,
 the sweat of battle,
 a song in the wilderness,
 the evening breeze,
 the deep breath,
 the tended wound,
 mercy, quietness, a friend;
 for the miracles of the daily,
 the mysteries of the eternal.
 Praise be to you.

Praise from all creatures,
 laughs and list-makers,
 wonders and worriers,
 poets and plodders and prophets,
 the wrinkled, the newborn,
 the whale, and the worm,
 from all, and from me.

Praise, praise be to you
 for amazing grace.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| From the editor . . | 1 |
| UMW—August Meeting | 2 |
| PACS Appeal | 2 |
| Shelter Meals | 2 |
| Flea Market | 2 |
| Upcoming Events | 3 |
| August Lectionary | 3 |
| Birthdays/Anniversaries | 3 |

UMW at Valley Forge UMC

The August meeting of the UMW will be held on Wednesday, the 17th at 7 p.m. at the home of Patty Davis. The topic for discussion will be the upcoming Flea Market, to be held on Saturday, October 8th. We will start planning now so that this flea market will be another huge success. Our hope is that this event will be bigger and better than ever. Please bring a list of ideas for the Flea Market to present to the group. At this meeting we will indulge in chocolate, cheese, crackers and the beverage of your choice. Feel free to bring any of the above or just bring yourself to enjoy each other's company.

Directions: Patty's address is 50 Meadowbrook Lane in Phoenixville. From the church proceed to Phoenixville on Route 23. Turn left onto Route 29. At the light, turn right onto Pothouse Road. Proceed approximately 1/2 mile (past the golf course greens) and turn right onto Meadowbrook Lane. (If you pass St. Ann's Cemetery, you've gone too far.) Patty's house is the last house on the left. Patty says her yard is dead so there is plenty of parking. Questions: call Patty at 610-917-3363 or 610-247-6909 (cell) or e-mail her at plr619@verizon.net.

Patty and the Editor



Our turn for Shelter Meals is the Week of September 19

Chefs and Cooks of VFUMC: Mark your calendars! We've been informed that our week to provide Shelter Meals at St. Mary's Shelter is the week of September 19. It's time to start thinking up your feasts in preparation for the important week. We know we have some of the best cooks in town at Valley Forge UMC. The feedback from the residents at the Shelter is always awesome!

PACS Appeal

Many thanks to everyone who so generously donates food items to PACS. We're keeping Fern busy on Monday mornings as she delivers our donations to the PACS food pantry.

Just a reminder . . . the Phoenixville schools open for the Fall on August 29. That's still a month away. So please continue, when you're shopping, to include an item for PACS. We know they appreciate our help.

The Editor

Want to be a liturgist for worship? Just let us know.

If you would like to volunteer to read scriptures on Sunday mornings during our worship services, please let Jo Ellen know so she can put your name on the list. Every volunteer reads approximately four times a year.

Annual Flea Market scheduled for October 8

The annual Flea Market, sponsored by the United Methodist Women of VFUMC, will be held on Saturday, October 8 (time to be announced).

After Labor Day, please bring your fleas to the carriage house for storage. On Sunday, October 2, after worship, we will transfer the fleas into the Education Building and begin arranging everything for the big event. Thank you, in advance, for donating items to help make our Flea Market a big success.

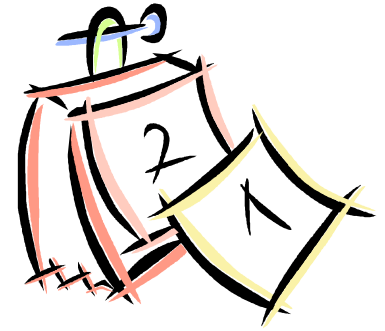
The Editor

Tim and Toby

Keep checking the bulletins and e-mails for information about when Tim and Toby Banks will be in town to meet with us.

Upcoming Events

at Valley Forge United Methodist Church



- August 7 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m., Holy Communion
Hymn Sing: 9:20 a.m., Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
- August 14 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Hymn Sing: 9:20 a.m., Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School Class, 11 a.m.
- August 17 UMW Meeting, 7 p.m.
Home of Patty Davis (see article in this issue for directions)
- August 20 Men's Group Meeting, 9 a.m.
- August 21 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Hymn Sing, 9:20 a.m., Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School Class, 11 a.m.
- August 28 Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Hymn Sing: 9:20 a.m., Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Sunday School Class, 11 a.m.

August Lectionary

August 7 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14: 22-33

August 14 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 13:(10-20), 21-28

August 21 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

August 28 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c
Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28



Birthdays & Anniversaries

August Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Jane Plummer | 4 |
| Wendy Martielli | 10 |
| John Torres | 19 |
| Jo Ellen Hippenstiel | 19 |
| Lou DeMartinis | 21 |
| Nancy Loane | 25 |
| Lovye Oesterlin | 26 |



August Anniversary

Tom & Nancy Loane 10