



The Journal

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SEPTEMBER, 2011

DAN'S DOODLES

TO KNOW CHRIST TO GROW IN CHRISTLIKENESS
TO GO IN CHRIST'S NAME

"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?"

All I have to write is "9/11" and our hearts and minds go to a certain place immediately, don't they? "9/11" is a constant reminder of just how precarious life on this earth can be. Things can change in an instant. No, we don't dwell on that and it is good that we don't. But when we DO stop to reflect on what really matters in this life, we quickly realize just how seemingly unpredictable life can be.

That is why the words of the first verse of "How Firm A Foundation" are still so powerful! In the midst of this "crazy" world in which we live, there is a "firm foundation" for life, and it is to be found in the pages of Scripture—"His excellent Word."

I have been reading the journals of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism in the 18th Century, and his words challenge me to remember our ultimate purpose in offering hope to a dying world:

"To candid, reasonable men I am not afraid to lay open what have been the inmost thoughts of my heart. . . . I am a spirit come from God and returning to God; just hovering over the great gulf, till a few moments hence I am no more seen—I drop into an unchangeable eternity! I want to know one thing, the way to heaven—how to land on that happy shore. God himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end he came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. O GIVE ME THAT BOOK! At any price, give me the Book of God!"

The Word of God reminds us that "this life is not our home". "But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ is. . . ." (Philippians 3:20). Any message of the gospel that purports to offer real hope to our world and fails to offer the message of eternal life available in Jesus Christ, is doing the One who died and rose again a great disservice!

Of course we need to do all we can to "relieve the suffering" of those who are around us right here and now, but we realize that this life is only temporary and the heart of Jesus was to "labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life. . . ." (John 6:27).

So, your job is to help me remember, in the words of a recent Lay Leader of the Conference, "to keep the main thing the main thing!!!" God bless you and I will see you in worship!!!

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SEPTEMBER GREETERS

September 4- Tim & Sandra Morrow

*September 11- Dorothy Reed &
Annette Robertson*

*September 18- Linda Ault &
Bettina Moxley*

*September 25 - Carlette Samons &
Annette Robertson*

*(If you can't greet on your Sunday,
please call Annette Robertson at
683-0742 or 683-4917)*

COMMUNION AT THE MANOR

We will serve *Holy Communion* at the Charleston Manor on Wed., September 7, 9:30 a.m. You are invited to come and share in the service.

We would like to thank the family of “Doc” and Dorothy Cullison for their memorial gift which provided our new sound system. The update to our system is greatly appreciated by those who work directly with it and many favorable comments have been heard about the improved sound on Sunday morning! So, thank you for your “extravagant generosity.”

Pastor Dan, on behalf of our Worship Committee

CALLING ALL TO CHOIR!!!

September is a great time to begin with us in choir practice!!! If you have been holding back, hey, now is YOUR TIME!!! We will meet at the home of Mrs. Suellen Fenton (506 N. Main) at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 7th for a POT LUCK and listen to the new CHRISTMAS CANTATA.

SERVE 2011 HAPPENING—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

The Outreach Team would like to invite ALL PARTICIPANTS to a BREAKFAST at the Family Life Center at 8:00 a.m. on this day! We will have a brief devotion and prayer before being “sent out” to our projects for the morning! REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR T-SHIRT FOR THE DAY!!!

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH NIGHT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28! Come out for a whole new way of looking at God! Rock music, cool video series, and some fun activities! Sunday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Youth will be participating in A DAY of SERVICE September 10! Talk to Sherry Austin or Whitney Choate for more details. Sign up in the back of church. And don’t forget to grab a shirt!

Youth Night Days for this fall: September 11 and 18, October 9 and 23 at 6:30 p.m. Mark you calendars now! You won’t wanna miss this!

SOUL SUPPER! Wanna catch the wave?! Youth will be watching the new Soul Surfer movie outside, drive-in style. The couches from the youth room will be outside and we’ll watch the movie on the church walls! (If it rains, we’ll be in the Family Life Center.) Bring your friends...And get ready for a cool movie and even cooler prizes!! September 17 from 7:00—9:30 p.m. Grades 6-12. Contact Whitney Choate with any questions 427-9448 or check Facebook.

YOUTH— If you did not get the mission trip or concert letters in the mail, there are some in the youth room. If you need an extra one for a friend, feel free to pick one up! Casting Crowns Concert in Murray on Nov. 10!

THANK YOU!!!

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the blanket and the scholarship money. I will put them to good use this fall at Parkland College.

Thank you also for your contribution to our project graduation fund. I appreciate all the support you all have shown over the years. Please continue to pray for me as I go further into my career and life.

James Naile

Dear United Methodist Church,

I received the scholarship money you awarded me for college! Thank you for being so generous, it is greatly appreciated.

Love,

Natalie Brewer

Dear United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for the Prayer Shawl. I am a firm believer in prayer. It means so much to know someone is praying for you. Your thoughtfulness and kindness will always be remembered.

God Bless,

Sarah Housewright

Dear Sisters,

Thank you for the prayers and support! We could not serve in the Congo without you. I'll be bringing Joshua back for college in August, so please pray for our travels. He's going to Truman State, in Kirksville. The need here is overwhelming, and we've found that it helps to focus on making a difference in one life at a time. Please pray for the elections here. Nine people have already been killed in over registration and protests. I hope to see you in August if my schedule and health allow. I'll be having some medical work done on my feet.

Love & prayers,

Nancy Burton

To the Charleston United Methodist Church,

"I want to express my sincere thanks to you for your support of the Gideon work. The offering which was given in the amount of \$631.00 is tangible evidence of the love your congregation has for making the Word of God available to those who otherwise may not have a copy. This will enable 126 Bibles or 421 Testaments to be purchased and placed. We pray that many precious souls will come to a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as a result of these Scriptures being distributed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Glenn Barth, President of the Sikeston Camp U
The Gideons International

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

The 2011 Semo Mini-Festival of Sharing will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Dexter, MO on Saturday, October 1, 2011. If you would like to help with the work, please plan to be at the church between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Lunch occurs at 11:30 a.m., followed by a worship time. Distribution of the goods going to various food pantries across SE Missouri (including Charleston) is held from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Jack Moxley
- 3 - Jim Thurmond
- 4 - Ed Marshall
- 5 - Jettie Kate Brink
- 6 - Emmett Burke & Janet DeField
- 8 - Lee Fraley
- 9 - Ed Smith, Deb Williams, Edward McClain & Andrea Story
- 10 - Shawn McClain
- 11 - Linda Ault & Emily Winchester
- 12 - Jane Ellen Brink & Catie Dovin
- 13 - Cory Adkisson
- 14 - Jeff Shelby, Jim French & Randy Brown
- 15 - Sally Burke, Elana Bryant, Jacqueline Willoughy, Lynda Wiley,
Natalie Benvenuto & Boyd French
- 16 - Herb Marshall & Trent Hurley
- 17 - Andy French, Janie Young, John Keener & Richard Logan
- 18 - Laura Jones
- 19 - Bonnie Story & Warren Hearnese, II
- 20 - Nathan Ault
- 21 - Ann McCuiston, Charles Brink, Emily McDowell & Leslie Hingle
- 22 - Chase Wiley
- 23 - Lee Ann Cullison, Robert Michael & Scott French
- 24 - Barbara Moxley
- 25 - Ryan Moxley & William McNeary
- 26 - John Barrett & John W.L. Goodin
- 27 - Ronnie Michael
- 28 - Bill McNeary
- 29 - Ben Hillhouse

*MAKING
DISCIPLES*

*

*MAKING
A DIFFERENCE*

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It's Bar-Be-Que Time!

The 17th Annual United Methodist Church Barbeque will be on Friday, September 23rd in the Family Life Center from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

We would like for each church family to bring a non-refrigerated dessert to the church on Friday, Sept. 23 by 9:30 a.m. We will need these so we can be ready for the lunch crowd.

Tickets for adults are \$7.00. Children's tickets are \$4.00 and can be purchased at the door.

If you would like to help in any way, just call the church office.

We hope everyone will BE A PART of this fun day.

