

Thank you, Peggy Hess, for bringing, and setting up a bookcase in the Conference Room for the UMW's Reading Program. It is on the east wall between the piano and the corner bookcase. Now you can see all the titles & pick out something interesting to read. Adult and Youth books are shelved together by category, while all Children's books are on the bottom shelf of the corner bookcase. Information on how to check-out and return books is on the top shelf.



BarbaraNoss-Women's Reading Program



10 Fascinating Facts about John Wesley and United Methodism, by Jeremy Steele
(This is an abbreviated article found at umcom.org)

1. John Wesley wrote one of the all-time bestselling medical texts, titled *Primitive Physick*. It detailed current knowledge about home remedies and went through 32 editions, making it one of the most widely read books in England.
2. John Wesley coined the term "agree to disagree." He coined this term during his memorial sermon for a popular pastor named George Whitefield, with whom Wesley had serious theological differences.
3. John Wesley rode far enough on horseback to circle the earth 10 times, yet we do not know the names of any of his horses. He thought it important for him personally to spread the gospel.
4. Wesley had serious doubts about his faith. He however, followed a mentor's advice, "preach faith till you have it; and then, because you have it, you will preach faith."
5. "Methodist" was originally a derogatory term. It was used by outsiders to mock John Wesley and his early societies for using a *method* for growing closer to God.
6. Wesley counseled people to "eat a little less than you desire." This was not for dieting, but rather to exercise control over natural desires.
7. Wesley never intended to split from the Church of England. His act of ordaining ministers to send to America to ordain ministers here during our Revolution, began the separation.
8. Wesley never said this famous quote attributed to him: "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can in all the places you can, at all the times you can, as long as ever you can." Though consistent with his perspective on life, there is no record of Wesley ever saying that.
9. Wesley believed you could not be a Christian on your own. Wesley believed we could only grow as Christians in community - "social holiness."
10. Methodism grew from four to 132,000 members in Wesley's lifetime. He left behind a movement with 72,000 members in the British Isles and 60,000 in America.

Access Sunday sermons and special music at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/RUMC83350>

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FREEDING MIND, BODY, SOUL



Volume IV - Issue 5

May 2016



The Church is Relevant Today

Pastor David Madden

Church is meant to be a place that nurtures and supports people along their journey toward a relationship with God. However, for many, church has been replaced by the internet and social media. Many people no longer feel the need to commune with one another; a quick text or comment on Facebook will suffice. No wonder Church attendance is down, while we are seeing a dramatic increase in the "spiritual but not religious" segment of our society. However, Phillis Tickle's book titled "*The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*," states that the Church is not necessarily in decline but, is in a state of transformation. Phillis tells us the Church goes through a dramatic transformation approximately every 500 years. And we are currently in the midst of another 500 year transformation.

So, what does this mean for us? Maybe I'm naive but, I believe people will realize that interacting with a computer does not take the place of a physical interaction with another person. Typing on a key board does not replace a face to face conversation.

Humans need each other. We need to experience the community atmosphere that Church provides. We need church because it's a family reunion. Jesus said, "Who is My family, those who do My will." (Mark 3:33, 35). We are a church family rejoicing with one another, crying with one another, helping each other. We need each other's support. We need church because it's a classroom. We need church because it's a refuge. The sanctuary is a place to get away from the busyness of the world. It's a mini-retreat. It's a place to focus our thoughts on each other and to worship God. We need church because it's a victory celebration. Jesus left an empty tomb. We can celebrate His resurrection together. At

least one day a week should be set aside for remembering Jesus' triumph over death and the evil that resides in our world. That is why we need church.

So, the next time you hear that the Church is in decline or, is no longer relevant, tell them you belong to a Church family that is relevant and growing. And when they get tired of living life through their computer screen they should come experience our Church family and get personally reconnected to God and society.



BY NOW THE WOMEN HAVE RECEIVED THEIR POSTCARD INVITATION TO THE UMW SPRING LUNCHEON

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DATE OF THE LUNCHEON IS TUES., MAY 3RD, NOT MON., MAY 2ND. THEY ARE SO SORRY FOR THIS MISINFORMATION. PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD. THANK YOU.

General Conference convenes May 10 and continues through May 20. If you are at all interested in following any of the conference activities live on the internet, please contact this office 436-3354, for more information.

Hello everyone!. Thank you for the card and for remembering me! Really appreciate all of you and Rupert is still my church home. Love, Muriel (Shouse)



Church Council Update

Your Church Council met on Saturday, April 16, with two major agenda items. The first was to review how RUMC did with budgets, attendance, membership and ministry teams in 2015. Overall the church had enough income to meet the expenses and to pay 80% of the Conference Apportionments. Attendance per Sunday of 87, on average, is up slightly from the 2015 attendance average of 86. Membership is the same as in 2015 at 233. The number of Ministry Teams in 2016 is up compared to 2015, and expected to continue to grow. The second agenda item was to review the progress against the goals set for 2016. The Measurable Goals for 2016 are:

1. Increase worship attendance from 86 on average to 100 on average.
2. Spread the good news - Let the community know that the members of RUMC are here to share and spread the good news. The measures for success are:
 - a) Initiate 6 new focused ministry teams or programs in 2016
 - b) Have an increase of 10% new visitors on average in 2016 from 5.0 per week to 5.5 per week.
 - c) Increase Facebook "likes and shares" by 20% from 168 bars in 2015 to 202 bars in 2016.
3. Build 3 new partnerships during 2016. These would be partnerships with other churches or organizations in the community. Examples of current partnerships are MCEA and the Open Hearts Food Pantry, with partners from other churches. Building a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce would be another example.

There was a lot of very good brainstorming around each of the goals and how best to achieve them. Overall the Council felt good at the progress this early in the year. At this point in the year, the measurable goals are moving ahead. Good progress is expected as Ministry Teams and other activities are put in place to achieve the goals.

LET'S BE A PIECE OF THE BIG PICTURE

Rupert UMW Spring Luncheon
May 3, 2016 @ Noon

Speaker: Kathy Duncan

Kathy will be speaking on her experiences in Africa and Guatemala. Please come. Enjoy lunch, fellowship and a great program.



invited and bring a friend.

The Methodist Men's Breakfast is on Saturday, May 14 @ 8:00 a.m. Their guest speaker will be Superintendent of Schools, Kenneth Cox. Men, you are



Evey Johnson and her mother, Michelle will present a short message on Sun., May 1, during worship about the Compassion Sunday project. Compassion International was founded in 1952. It is a Christian child development and child advocacy ministry dedicated to helping over 1.7 million children in need worldwide. Evey has become involved by helping a child in need and wants to share this with the congregation.



It's Summer Hiatus time!

The month of May will be the last time these groups will meet until fall: UMW, Deborah Circle, Grace Circle, Wesleyan Circle, Girl Scouts, UMM Breakfast, Choir,

Bells and Sunday School. The last practice for Bells is May 12, and for Choir, Thurs., May 19. The last Sunday School will be held on Sun., May 22. The Scouts usually meet during the summer, however not necessarily every week here at the church. Have a fun and productive summer.

Sun., May 22, is not only the last Sunday for Sunday School, it is also Graduation/Scholarship Sunday. There will be a breakfast that morning for graduates and their families and during Worship, the RUMC Foundation and the United Methodist Men will present their awarded scholarships. Congratulations graduates.



Request from Ginger Cooper of The Minidoka Co. Historical Museum - On May 19th and 20th the museum will be hosting classes of 4th graders for Idaho History Day. She is requesting donations of material (cotton, polyester, old sheets, etc. no knits) that can be cut into strips for a hands on project for the children.

They would need the material early May so that they can get it cut into strips before the actual dates. Ginger can be reached at 436-0336 (museum) or 650-5750 (cell), or material can be left at our office. Ginger can also use volunteers the days of the event to help guide the children from area to area.



Vacation Bible School - June 20 - 24

Surf's up! The fellowship hall and surrounding area will be transformed into an ocean of excitement as Surfers and Lifeguards glide through surfer-themed music, crafts, science projects, Bible stories and more. This will be a fun and exciting time for children ages kindergarten through 12. This year VBS will be under the direction of Jennifer Hieb, Marcie McGuire and Nanette Eilers. If you are asked to participate, please consider helping. If, you want to help, simply walked up to one of these friendly ladies and say so. I bet you won't be turned down.



The operation of the food pantry is running smoothly. So far your kind donations, both monetary and actual products, have served well in keeping the shelves stocked. Cheryl Juntunen is a wiz at contacting businesses and organizations for donations, and the Idaho Food Bank offers really good deals monthly. We feel that the food pantry is blessed and is a blessing for everyone involved. Thank you for your continued support. Grace Circle plans to hold an appreciation brunch the first Sat. in June for those people who have volunteered their time in helping in the pantry on our food distribution days.

Trustee's Annual



Church Cleanup

It's spring! You know what that means. Yup, clean-up time. This year instead of having a designated date for the annual church clean-up day, the facilities manager, Bryan Bruns, and the Trustees decided to put out a sign-up sheet of some tasks that needed done. Most all of the tasks have been claimed and those who signed-up have the month of May to complete the task they chose. Now, if you didn't get in on this and you really want to help, please contact Bryan Bruns or the office.

I wish to send a giant Thank You to all involved in the making of the Saturday night Mystery Dinner - such a delightful time. The outstanding talent from the kitchen to the stage and all those in between made for a truly entertaining evening. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Cynthia Freeman

Report and thank you of the Mystery/Theater Fund Raiser Ministry Team

Thank you to all who participated in the "Mysterious Benefactor" dinner/play on Sat., April 23. The dinner/play was a huge success, because of everyone that was there that evening. Whether you were an actor, server, cook, kitchen help or just got to sit and enjoy the evening, you helped make it so wonderful. Thank you to the "church mouse" who washed up most of the pans on Sunday morning. The biggest thank you goes to Dave Buetow, who was on his feet all evening, did a fantastic job, and never got to eat. As director, I learned many things about the logistics of a dinner/play that we will use next year, as Pastor would like to see this become an annual event.

Thanks and God Bless you all!!! Peggy Hess (the one who roped you into all this) and the Team.

(note: There was a full house, 102 meals being served, (Kris Somsen & crew, excellent meal) with an intake of \$1,030. - the Ministry Team will decide how to apportion the money to those "benefactees," [I know, that's not a word, but we are working a theme here.] as advertised).

