

The Upper Room is the first thing some read every morning and the last others read every night. For more than 80 years, the devotional thoughts have been shared over meals, discussed in Sunday School classes, and read aloud in hospital rooms all over the world. Whether a daily reader or new to *The Upper Room*, these quick facts will give you a new appreciation for this publication of The United Methodist Church.

When the first, then quarterly issue of *The Upper Room* was released for April-May-June 1935, there was little else like it. Oswald Chambers' devotional classic *My Utmost for His Highest* was first published in the U.S. the same year, and *Our Daily Bread* would not be released for another three years.

100,000 copies of the first issue were released as an "experiment for one quarter," according to the original motion. Worries over how it would be received were soon eased. They printed 160,000 copies of the second issue, then 211,000 of the Oct-Nov-Dec one. By the end of 1936, 500,000 copies of the seventh edition were printed.

In the first issue, each daily devotion contained a quoted scripture verse, a suggested Bible reading, some brief thoughts, a prayer, and a "Thought for the Day" – a phrase believed to have been coined by *The Upper Room*. More than 80 years later, the daily devotions follow the same format.

The name *The Upper Room* helps provide a framework for the mission and vision of the devotional guide. Like the upstairs room where Jesus celebrated his last supper with his disciples (Mark 14:15, Luke 22:12), the devotions offer readers an opportunity to sit with Jesus in prayer, devotions, and communion with him and one another. Similarly, like the room where the disciples were staying at the time of Pentecost (Acts 1:13), the daily readings invite us to share the love of Jesus with everyone, as Jesus told the disciples the Holy Spirit would empower us to do.

The editors of the first issue invited pastors and leaders to write the devotions. Almost immediately, however, readers began submitting ones they had written. In 1938, *The Upper Room* first included devotions written by readers and continues to welcome submissions from professional writers and those inspired to tell their story for the first time, both laity and clergy. Approximately 4,000 submissions are received each year! By focusing on stories written by Christians around the world about faith in everyday life, *The Upper Room* inspires readers to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Although started by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, *The Upper Room* devotional was never intended to be for one denomination. From that experimental first issue to today, the devotions are a "gift from Methodists to the larger church," according to *The Upper Room* website, and our United Methodist Book of Discipline directs Discipleship Ministries to "continue to embody the interdenominational character of the ministry of *The Upper Room*."

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Methodist Dimensions

RUPERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

208-436-3354

FEEDING MIND, BODY, SOUL

Volume VI - Issue IX

September 2018



Acquiring Wisdom

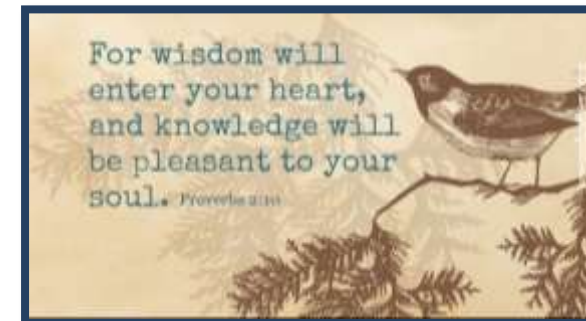
Rev. David Madden

We need to break out of our consumer mentality and begin viewing ourselves as followers of Jesus; men and women who passionately pursue Jesus and God's purpose in our lives. And we need to build a life plan that's consistent with God's plan.

Today God is inviting us to pursue wisdom. We begin this pursuit by entering into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Once that relationship is established, we are then called to passionately pursue wisdom, to embrace an accurate moral code, and to build a life plan consistent with God's plan. Amen

How do we acquire wisdom? According to Proverbs 1:7, the place to begin is the fear of the Lord. Proverbs tells us that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." Most Bible teachers view this verse as the motto or theme of the entire book of Proverbs.

Some of the wise sayings in the book of Proverbs came by direct revelation from God. In other words, God revealed these wise sayings through dreams or visions. Also, God revealed these wise sayings through people's observational skills, or what we might call common sense. So, our task is to "listen" for the word of God, observe the world around us, watch how people respond, and learn what kind of consequences come from certain actions.



In addition, to live wisely, we need to redefine what we mean by success. We need to abandon our quest for constant self-fulfillment and abandon ourselves to Christ fulfillment. We need to understand how God has uniquely wired us, and how this uniqueness can be used by God to help other people

Bounty of the Harvest
Dinner and Bazaar
Pulled Smoked Pork
Oven Roasted New Red Potatoes
'Methodist' Squash
Carolina Style Coleslaw
Applesauce
Homebaked Rolls and Pies
Baked Food Sale and Craft Bazaar
 September 28, 2018
 4-7pm
 RUPERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 605 H STREET
Free Will Donation
 To Go Orders Call
 208-436-3354

United Methodist Church
 605 H Street
 P. O. Box 804
 Rupert, ID 83350
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umcluv@cablone.net

Office Hours: Mon, Tues,
 Wed., 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Food Pantry: Mon. & Wed.,
 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 Rev. David Madden is in the
 office on Mon. thru Thurs.
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and by
 appointment. 436-3354
pastordavid@cablone.net

Radio Station KUWC LP 101.7 FM owned and operated by the Rupert UMC
 Listen to live broadcast of Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m.
 Service re-broadcast at 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays
<http://www.youtube.com/user/RUWC83350>
 Access Sunday sermons and special music at:

Has summer just zoomed past and left us literally in its dust, or what? Hope you all have had an enjoyable summer. It is September, and time for all groups, meetings, and school to start. Here then is a schedule of dates and times for these various groups.

- **Sunday School** begins, Sept. 9 @ 9:30 a.m.
- **Choir practice** has already begun, meeting every Thurs. @ 7:30 p.m.
- **Hand Bell practice** begins, Thur. Sept. 6 @ 6:30 p.m. (meets every Thurs.)



- **United Methodist Men's Breakfast** begins Sat., Sept. 8 @ 8:00 a.m. (meets every 2nd Saturday)
- **United Methodist Women** meets every 2nd Tuesday – check their booklet for times, or call the office 208-436-3354.
- **Deborah Circle** – meets every 3rd Thurs. @ 10:30 a.m. at the church building.
- **Grace Circle** – meets every 3rd Tues., @ 7:00 p.m. at the church building.
- **Wesleyan Circle** – meets every 3rd Thurs. @ 1:00 p.m. at the church building.
- **Ruth Circle** – meets when they have a project.
- **CORE Ministries** – meets every other month, On the 2nd Tues. @ 6:30p.m. beginning on Sept. 11th
- **Color Me Calm** – To Be Announced



Three things about the upcoming Harvest Dinner & Bazaar (see poster on front page).

- 1) We need pies, pies and pies for the dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet all month.
- 2) Your homemade items and home baked goodies are needed for the bazaar.
- 3) It always makes for a successful dinner/bazaar if you bring yourself and everyone you know.



Thank you for your generosity in donating funds for the purchase of

school supplies. Thank you, Terri & Bryan for shopping and organizing supplies by grade. We were able to give a lot out through the pantry before school started, and will continue to disperse them until they are gone.

Thanks to Gary Fowler and friends who installed a new rope and pulley on our flagpole, and thank you Gary Schorzman for putting up a new flag.

Thank you to those who are continuing the watering and care of our flower and bush beds. Thank you to someone who sprayed the broadleaf weeds in the lawn.

Thank you to all of you who took on a spring cleaning project and completed them.

Thank you, to everyone who helped to make the ice cream social a fun evening. We had plenty of delicious homemade ice cream and cakes. Everyone pitched in to set up and stayed to help clean up. Those who came seemed to have a good time, and enjoyed the entertainment by *The Variations* and *Alan Hale*.



Trustees met August 19, 2018 and discussed the following agenda items:

Fellowship Hall Noise Reduction Project... Completed

Several people have noticed a real reduction in the noise and echo in the Fellowship Hall... Thank you Jim and Barbara Rodgers for developing and funding this improvement.

Parsonage Patio Repair... We have one bid (\$2300) to do all work necessary. Request for funding sent to Finance and Foundation.

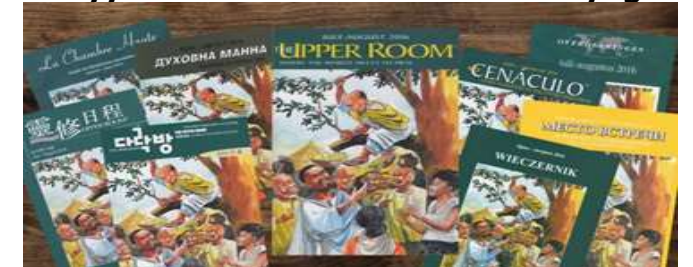
Curbing and sidewalk repair... After consultation with the curbing people, we have decided to remove the broken curbing and build up the gravel on the edge of the parkway with possibly a paver set along the edge. The tree roots are an ongoing issue with both the sidewalk and the curb and the curb people think that new curbing would do the same thing again.

Broken Irrigation Pipe... The repair of the existing broken irrigation pipe and the proposal to install an automatic sprinkler system have been combined. Trustees are waiting on actual bids for the work and then will decide whether to repair the existing system or put in a new sprinkler system... One bid has been received for the sprinkler system (\$7500). Request for funds sent to the Finance Committee and the Foundation.

Shrubs... Jim Rodgers approached the Trustees with the concern that the Arborvitae in the front of the church are very old and are starting to die. It was decided to remove them and replace with something else... Suggestions are very welcome!

East Wall... Ministry Team will meet in October.

The Upper Room – continued from back page



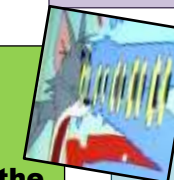
Today, *The Upper Room* is translated into 35 languages and reaches millions of people living in 100 different countries, in every nation and every language, we read the same scripture, the same prayer, and the same story every day, uniting us in our spiritual growth. Additionally, *The Upper Room* offers opportunities to readers to connect in community by sharing comments and prayer requests. This is one more, wonderful way to share our spiritual journeys together.

In addition to the daily devotional, they publish a devotional magazine for children called *Pockets*, one for youth called *devozine*, and an annual of lectionary-based, daily devotions called *Disciplines*. All are available in print and digitally.

Upper Room Ministries also offers a variety of resources on prayer including The Upper Room Living Prayer Center where you can have someone pray with you and for you over the phone.

They also lead and facilitate experiences like The Walk to Emmaus and The Academy of Spiritual Formation. You can explore all Upper Room Ministries offers at www.upperroom.org.

Our all-around tech savvy guy, Cliff Hieb, (what would we do without him?) has a few used computers, in good working order, with windows 7. If you are interested in a cheap beginner computer, please contact the office (208-436-3354) and we will put you in touch with Cliff



You're INVITED
Women's Ecumenical Luncheon
 September 13, 2018
 12:00 p.m.
 Burley United Methodist Church
 450 E. 27th St.
 208-678-2184

CROP WALK FOR HUNGER
 SATURDAY, SEPT. 22 – 10:00 a.m.
 HEYBURN RIVERSIDE PARK
 Our food pantry has benefitted in the past from this event. Mary Zarybnisky and Rev. Madden are our representatives. If you are able to donate, or walk please contact them, or they may be contacting you.

FREE POTATOES
 (BRING YOUR BAGS, BOXES OR BUCKETS)
 Saturday, September 29, 2018
 8:00 a.m. to Noon
 Miller Research Farms – 208-531-5124
 230 North 350 East Rupert, ID