

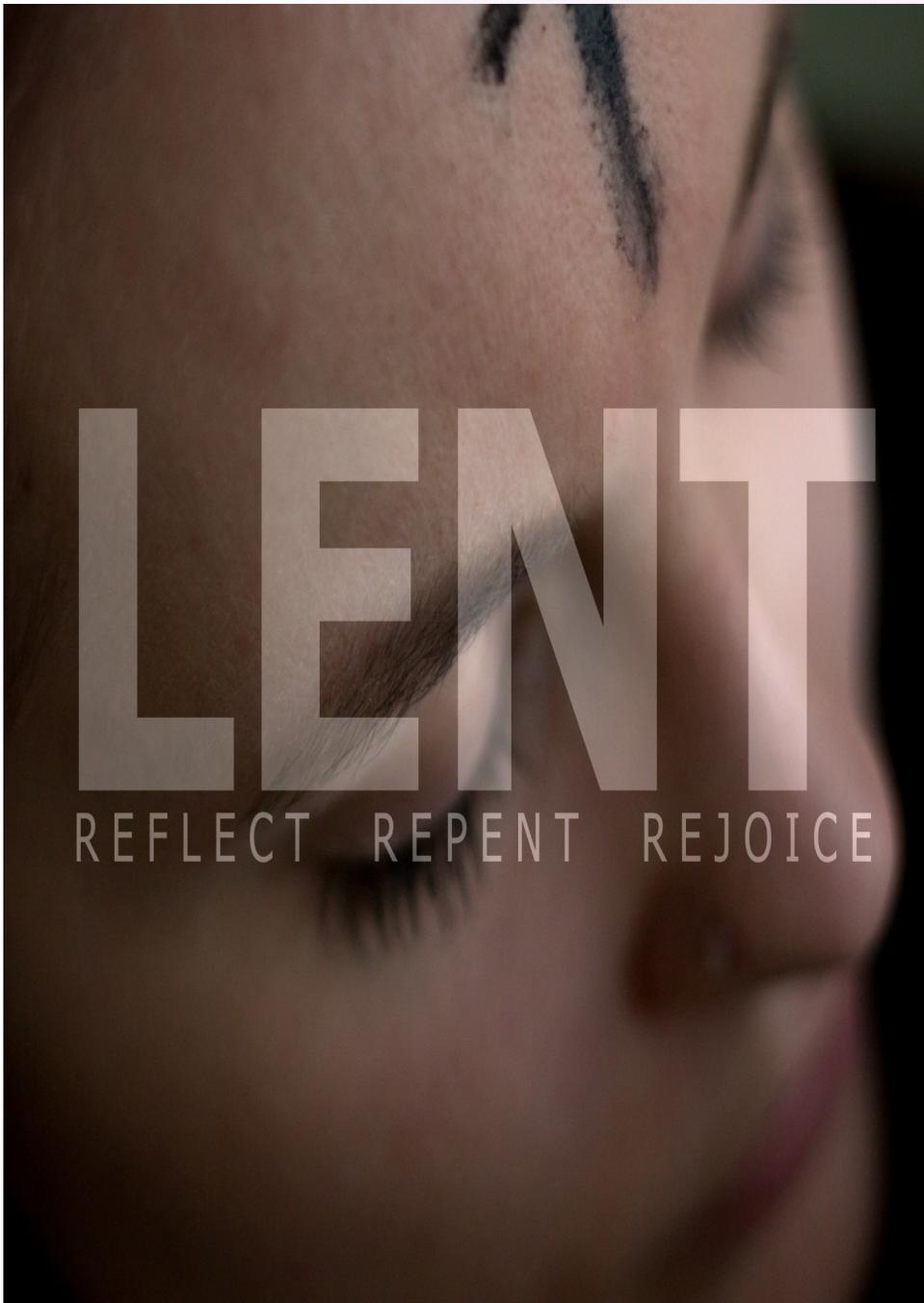
March 2023

Conley's United Methodist Church



THE CONNECTION

In essentials, unity In non-essentials, liberty In all things, charity



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Special Points of Interest

- Lent: What it is and Ways to Observe it
- Welcoming a New Pastor
- Poetry, Prayers, and Words of Wisdom
- Special Days in March



The Pastor's Pen

a word from Pastor Bill Davis

“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”
2 Corinthians 5:17-20a (NIV)

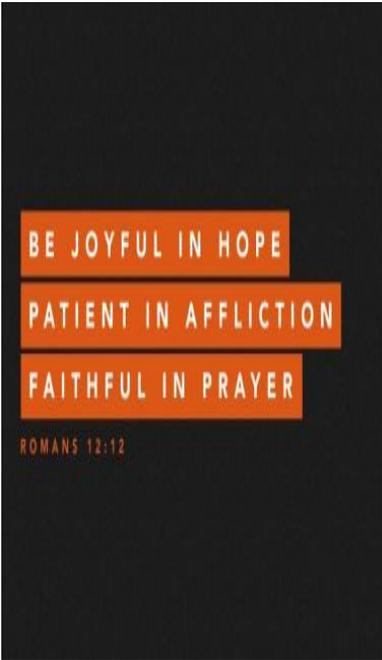
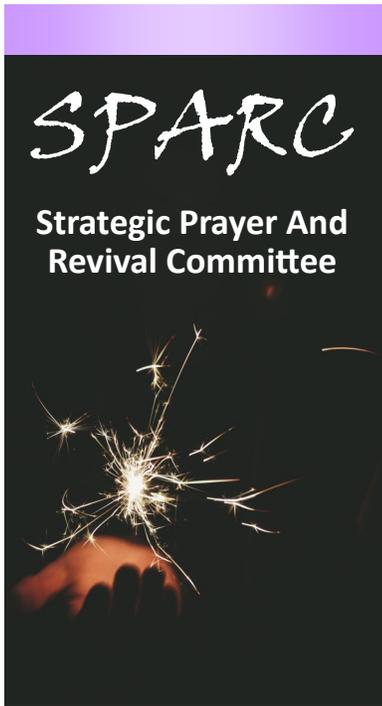
Regulars at Conley’s know that “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” is a favorite hymn of mine, and “here I raise mine ebenezer” is a favorite line in that hymn. An *ebenezer* is a testament to something God has done—a call to remember God’s faithfulness. And there have been countless times in my life and ministry when the memory of God’s faithfulness in the past has sustained me through trying times. Perhaps that is why I look forward to the season of Lent despite its somber themes; Lent is a call to remember.

We began this season by receiving a mark that represents our faith. Yes, the ashes call us to remember our mortality and sinfulness—not exactly the uplifting message one usually associates with an ebenezer—but the ashen cross also calls us to remember the work of Jesus Christ . . . and our salvation by his grace. In Christ, we are new creations.

Lent is a season of hope—a time to remember the goodness of God and God’s amazing grace, even while we confess that we far too often fall short.

In the seven weeks following Ash Wednesday, we reflect on our mortality and the times and ways we fall short. These are sobering reflections, to be sure, but to remember where we are falling short is also to remember what we are called to be: Christ’s ambassadors. We are called to act like Jesus, Lent implores us, remember? We are called to walk by faith, remember? We are called to love and to forgive others as we are loved and forgiven by God, remember? When we fail to do these things, we are not acting like ourselves. We are not acting like our born-again, Spirit-filled selves, anyway. We are acting like our old, dead-in-our-sin, unredeemed selves. And the proper response is to remember that in Christ we are new creations—the people of God—and that is not how we act. As Christians, we do not act in ways that demean others or divide the church. We act in ways that bring reconciliation.

Lent calls the church to remember who we are called to be—and asks us if that is who we have been. And so, we make time in our worship to remember who we are, to recognize and confess where we have fallen short, and to get ourselves back on the right path. It is a serious season in the liturgical year when we are reminded of our weakness apart from God. Yet, we should not let the seriousness of the season obscure this truth: Lent is a season of hope—a time to remember the goodness of God and God’s amazing grace, even while we confess that we far too often fall short. We proclaim in our Scripture readings and in our songs and in our prayers that we are still being led by the Spirit of God to higher ground; we are still being transformed by the renewal of our minds into the image of Christ. Yes, our faults and failures remind us of our mortality and weakness, but they also remind us that God is still at work in us. Thanks be to God.



How to Pray When We Are Frustrated

by Ellen Walker

**Oh Lord, how long will you forget me?
Forever?
How long will you look the other way?
How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul,
with sorrow in my heart every day?
How long will my enemy have the upper hand?**

**Turn and answer me, O Lord my God!
Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die.
Don't let my enemies gloat, saying, "We have defeated him!"
Don't let them rejoice at my downfall.**

**But I trust in your unfailing love.
I will rejoice
because you have rescued me.
I will sing to the Lord
because he is good to me.**

Psalm 13 (NLT)

In Psalm 13 David gives us a pattern of prayer when we are frustrated. First he questions God about God's delay. Second he submits his requests. And third, he expresses his trust and praises God for God's help in the past.

Let's pray:

God, my God, when will you answer me? I've waited so long. I need your help. Please come quickly and help me with this problem. I trust in your faithfulness. You have always rescued me in the past. I rejoice in your goodness. I sing praises to you and wait in eager anticipation of your answer. In Jesus' name, Amen.

I do not fear that the people called Methodists shall ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. I only fear that they shall exist as a dead sect having the form of religion, but not the power thereof. And that undoubtedly will be the case unless they hold fast to the doctrine, disciplines, and spirit with which they first set out.

From Wesley's Essay: "Thoughts Upon Methodism"



What is Lent?

Lent is a season of forty days which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter). It is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. Lent calls the church to a time of self-examination and reflection.

Lent began in the early church as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts. Through the years, it evolved into a time of penance by all believers. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples, and extending ourselves — often choosing to give up something and to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word for spring; the root of the word, *lencten*, means “lengthen” in reference to the lengthening of days. The Sundays in Lent are an important part of the season, but they are not included in the forty days of repentance and fasting. This is why you will see the designation “Sunday *in* Lent” rather than “Sunday *of* Lent” in the naming of these Sundays. Sundays are set apart during this season because each Sunday represents a “mini-Easter”. Although Sunday worship services are often tempered during Lent, the Lord’s Day is always a celebration of Christ’s resurrection.



Lent is a journey following the way of Jesus

Ways to Observe Lent

Lent is a time of preparation and focus, reminiscent of Jesus' time in the wilderness before he started his public ministry (see Mark 1, Matthew 4, or Luke 4). We believe that Jesus went to the wilderness to set aside the distractions of normal, "worldly" life and focus on God and God's will for him. So we attempt to do the same during Lent.

Friday fish fries. No chocolate. Join a new Bible study.

All these practices have benefits. And all are common Lenten practices. They hint at ways the season of Lent can lead us into more disciplined, focused lives. With that in mind, we offer some other practices that hit at the heart of Lent and excite our spiritual lives.

On the next page, consider the four ways you can "enter the wilderness" this Lenten season and find some focus, too.

information on these pages provided by umc.org

4 Ways to Observe Lent

Lent is a season of focus and preparation. It aligns our hearts with God's heart as we approach Easter. The following are just a few ways to focus and prepare.



Give It Up

Consider giving up something that distracts from your important relationships: like too much time on Twitter or Clash of Clans.

Maybe cut out screen usage for several hours a day.

Take a day of true rest: let go of toil for 24 hours.



Plug In

Consider adding in something that helps you connect to God.

Read a book of the Bible, a devotional, or practice Lectio Divina on a daily basis.



Serve

Start a new routine of service.

Volunteer regularly as an academic mentor, step up to volunteer in a local church, or visit a nursing home.



Share It

Make it a communal event.

Share your Lent practices with others via a small group and/or attending worship.

Greetings from the Missions Team



Did you know?

Conley's distributes 10% of all income from church offerings to local, national, and international missions programs.

Kairos of Delaware is moving past covid. Prior to covid we had 9 *inside* weekends at Sussex Correctional Institution in Georgetown DE. Since covid, 0 weekends. We had a meeting with the Warden and Chaplain and things are looking up for restarting Prayer and Share and reunions back in the facility. Praise God and Keep Praying.

Kairos of Delaware is moving past covid! Prior to covid we had three *outside* weekends. Since covid, weekend #4 has taken place and Weekend #5 will be held in April with our largest team and most registered guests to date. Praise God and Keep Praying.

Kairos of Delaware is breaking new ground for us. We had a meeting with the DOC Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, two Bureau Chiefs and the head of Chaplaincy. At the end of the meeting the Commissioner told the Deputy Commissioner to make sure we had a meeting set up with each of the wardens in all facilities. Praise God and keep Praying.

Kairos of Delaware is pushing forward. We have met with the Warden, Head of Security, Chaplain, and Treatment Coordinator at Baylor Women's Correctional Facility, our only women's facility, along with the Deputy Commissioner, and Head of Chaplaincy. God willing, we are planning KI #1 in Baylor for April 2024. We have the remnants of an AC from years ago with our first attempt to enter Baylor. Praise God and keep Praying.

Kairos of Delaware is planning. We will be participating in a presentation for the Department of Juvenile Justice in April 2023. They are looking at different programs to determine what would be the most effective. "Torch of Course". Praise God and keep Praying.

Marie Van Der Wall
Conley's United Methodist Church
Mission Team Leader

Evangelism Team News

Did you see the He Gets Us commercials during the Superbowl? Over 113 million people around the world did! USA Today's ad meter, which ranks commercials by consumer rating, reported that the two ads ranked 8th and 15th respectively out of 51 ads.

Who is He Gets Us?

He Gets Us is a diverse group of people passionate about the authentic Jesus of the Bible. Financial support is provided by such diverse groups as YouVersion, Hobby Lobby, The Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College, and many more.

Be assured that He Gets Us is not "left" or "right" or a political organization of any kind. Nor are they affiliated with any particular church or denomination. They simply want everyone to understand the authentic Jesus as he's depicted in the Bible—the Jesus of radical forgiveness, compassion, and love.

He Gets Us has included many voices in their work—welcoming diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences to help address the many concerns and issues we all face.

Why is Conley's Participating in He Gets Us?

Because we believe that the world needs to know Jesus. And we want to take advantage of every opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with our community.

Because we believe that while much has been said about Jesus, much is still misunderstood. And we are confident that as people clearly understand, read, and learn for themselves about who Jesus is, they'll find wisdom, hope, and peace unlike any other offered.

Because He Gets Us helps us start conversations about these things with our family, friends, neighbors, and others in our community.

While we are excited about the opportunities He Gets Us provides for us to share with others the reason for our hope in Jesus, your Evangelism Team continues to build and share our faith through other means as well—look for more exciting updates in the months to come!

Did You Know?

He Gets Us is more than an ad campaign. They offer daily devotions, encouragement, and prayer guides to those who desire it, and provide churches with ads to run in their own communities with accompanying study guides for Sunday school or small group discussions.

They also offer shirts, hats, and stickers—many of you have already picked up free t-shirts at Conley's. These items are offered free of charge to serve as conversation starters.



SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Latest from Conley's Social Concerns Team



Soup for the Soul

Wednesday's Soup for the Soul looks forward to receiving and serving your Culinary Contributions. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex is you can contribute. Any questions can be directed to Dale Kehrer (Cell: 302-245-4123) (Home: 302-644-0614) or kehrbears@aol.com.

Ron Starich has designed a Tee shirt with logo for Soup for the Soul. There is a sign-up sheet on the refrigerator in the kitchen, if you are interested.

Feeding the Flock

The Collective Board is moving forward on obtaining 501c3 status. This will enable us to apply for grant money to fund our projects as we expand the ministry. As we move through this process, we continue to rely on you, the congregation at Conley's as well as the Thrift Store and community members for financial support. We are serving approximately 250 to 300 meals a week at a cost of \$1600-\$1800 per month. You can now donate by logging on to the Conley's website, clicking on the donate button and choosing Feed the Flock on the drop down menu.

We have been chosen to receive fresh produce and meat from the Historic Lewes Farmers Market. Beginning in April, they will be delivering to us every Monday. We are truly excited about this as it will allow us to add another dimension to our meals.

We're looking for a few volunteers who will be able to help with the bag lunch program beginning in June. Some people are needed to make sandwiches and fill bags on Mondays and Fridays between 9:15 and 10:30. This will be to supplement the people we already have. We are also looking for someone to go with us to our distribution site in Millsboro, to learn the process, to be able to fill in when one of the regular people need to be off. Contact Cheryl Wood if you can help. Text 609-790-9804 or email njchef219@aol.com.

Plans for our own garden have changed. We will be using the old garden site by the pavilion. Wesley Paulson and Jerry Pawlikowski have offered their assistance and we are hoping that a local scout troop may also be able to help. We will be adding some raised beds. The Garden Plot is being coordinated by Bob Marx.

Blessings,
Cheryl



Solitary religion is not to be found . . . The gospel of Christ knows of no religion but social religion; no holiness but social holiness. Faith working by love is the length and breadth and depth and height of Christian perfection.

(From John Wesley's intro to "Hymns and Sacred Poems.")

NEWS from CONLEY'S THRIFT SHOP



January 2023 was a banner month as compared to last year. This year we exceeded January 2022 by \$6000.00!

We can attribute this to better weather and possibly better selection of furniture to choose from. This excites us because we can donate more charity funds.

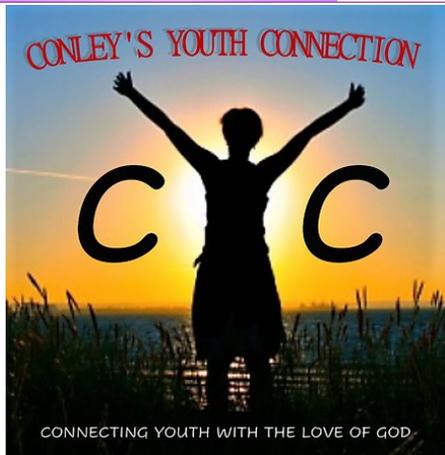
The Thrift Shop has decided to contribute a larger portion of our monthly charity monies to Conley's *Feeding the Flock* food program. The program is feeding approximately 200 bag lunches each week plus the hot meals to local homeless programs. Please consider joining with the Thrift Shop and make donations to their program. It is so worthy.

With the Thrift Shop, it is either feast or famine . . . sometimes we are so filled to the edges with furniture and household items, we start wondering where we will put one more item. Then prayers are answered and we have a fabulous sales week . . . and the barn and sheds get low and we have open spaces. We then get calls and will have a couple of full house pickups and it starts all over again. This is typical for Thrift Shop businesses.

We will be changing over to spring and summer clothing items mid March. We will be looking for 6 - 8 ladies to assist us with this event. If you are available on Monday, March 20th and can volunteer 4 or 5 hours, please give Pat or Sally a call. Thanks for considering helping! It's work, but fun (and we have a great lunch for the ladies!).

Did you know?

Conley's Thrift Shop donates 10% of all income to local charities.



Providing a safe and fun environment
where young people can
learn about God,
build their faith,
and form friendships.

Youth & Family Night returns

We are excited to announce the restart of Youth & Family Night at Conley's! Monthly activities featuring good food and fellowship and discussions about what the Bible has to say concerning the issues young people face today.

Conley's Camp has a new name

The success of our summer camp has opened doors for us to partner with other churches and ministries in our community! This reinforces our relationship with other congregations, bears witness to the world regarding our unity with fellow Christians, and creates exciting new opportunities for outreach and growth. To reflect this new step in the development of our summer camp and to encourage even more partnerships in the future, Conley's Camp has adopted a new name: **Camp Hope!**

We are excited to welcome members of Bethel UMC and Israel UMC to our steering committee, and to receive support from St. Matthews by the Sea UMC!

Planning for Camp Hope 2023 is underway!

This year, Camp Hope will be an eight-week summer day-camp for children going into 2nd-5th grades featuring fun indoor and outdoor activities, games, Bible stories, a healthy breakfast and lunch, arts and crafts, and more.

While some students look forward to a summer filled with fun vacations and recreational activities, there are others in our community who cannot afford such costly adventures . . . who miss the structure, resources, and safety provided by school. Camp Hope endeavors to provide these children with fun, wholesome summer memories — all free of charge due to the generous support of members of our church and community. *Thank you!*



Welcoming a New Pastor, part 1

“Itinerant” refers to the commitment by pastors to serve wherever their bishops send them. At their ordination, Methodist clergy must vow to move at the will of the bishop. Pastoral appointments in the Methodist Church are for one year at a time.

In 1756, John Wesley wrote, “We have found by long and consistent experience that a frequent exchange of preachers is best. This preacher has one talent, that another; no one whom I ever yet knew has all the talents which are needful for beginning, continuing, and perfecting the work of grace in a whole congregation.”

In the days of Francis Asbury, the first Methodist bishop in the United States, a pastor – most often a circuit rider – might be appointed to serve half of a state (or more!), and their appointment might be for as little as three months. Today, thousands of Methodist congregations in America trace their history to a circuit rider . . . including Conley’s.

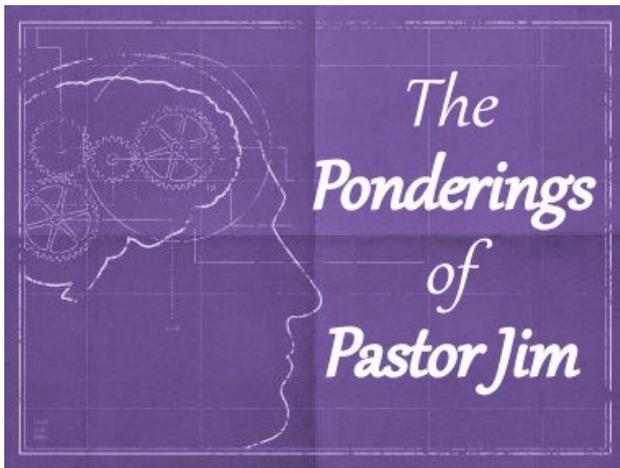
The United Methodist Church is an itinerant church; pastors are appointed to serve a congregation for a limited time before moving on to another congregation. These transitions can be difficult . . . for both the pastoral family and the congregation. The Lewis Center for Church Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary provides helpful guidelines to aide in the transition. This article is the first of three comprised of those guidelines; the second article will appear in next month’s edition of The Connection.

Prepare to welcome your new pastor

- Open your heart—decide ahead of time that you are going to love your new pastor.
- Begin praying daily for the new pastor and family, even as you continue to pray for your departing pastor and family.
- As soon as your new pastor is identified, send cards of welcome and encouragement to him or her.
- Carefully plan for the transition. Sometimes important welcoming gestures can be missed with everyone thinking someone else is handling the details.
- Appoint a specific liaison person to whom the pastor can go for help and information during the transition.

Say goodbye to your current pastor in a healthy way

- Express appreciation in ways that are consistent with what you have done in the past for previous pastors.
- Show love, regard, and even grief, for your departing pastor. Healthy closure with the old pastor is one of the best things you can do for the new pastor.
- Acknowledge the change in public ways. This allows the congregation better to let go and receive the new pastor.
- Provide the congregation the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to the outgoing pastor . . . even if things have not always gone well.
- Find appropriate occasions — in worship and at other times — to thank the outgoing pastor.
- Consider giving the pastor the last two weeks off. This helps the pastor enter their new situation rested, and provides the congregation with an emotional buffer between one pastor’s last Sunday and another pastor’s first Sunday.



The United Methodist Church has what is called an “itinerant system” of appointing pastors to churches. The Bishop, in consultation with the District Superintendents, each year decides to assign or reassign pastors to churches. When a reassignment takes place, the District Superintendent comes to the church, meets with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and informs them who their new pastor will be. It is then announced to the congregation on Sunday.

Pastor Bill and Susan are leaving Conley’s to go to North East United Methodist Church in North East, Maryland. They didn’t pick North East, it was picked for them.

When I was leaving the church in Harrington, and going to Grace Church in Millsboro, I had some concerns. The church in Rehoboth Beach was opening up and I had hoped I was going to be assigned there. During my first visit to Grace Church, I quickly noticed the window air conditioners in the parsonage – no central air! It only had a half bath downstairs and one full bath upstairs – and Marie and I were bringing along our three children. Then I learned that the church was \$23,000 in arrears. I had some concerns about this move.

But I can tell you this, oftentimes others (like the Bishop) know more about where you need to move than you do. My time in Millsboro was some of the best, most productive time of my career. We built a million-dollar addition onto the church – and paid for it! Our youth group and Sunday School were filled with young people. In fact, our high school age Sunday School class was the largest class we had! In my seven years there, we received 120 new members. The church was on fire for the Lord. And the parsonage was renovated with the addition of central air!

I would have never picked Millsboro as my next appointment. That decision was made for me. But the Lord knew what he was doing.

As this change takes place at Conley’s, we will deeply miss Pastor Bill and Susan. We, however, live with an itinerant system. The Bishop will select a new pastor for us – and the Lord’s work will continue.

We all have uncertainty during this time of change. For me personally, I ask: Will the new pastor so generously allow me to do all I do at Conley’s, as Pastor Bill has done? Answer: we walk by faith (II Corinthians 5:7).

SPRING IS LIKE SUMMER?

...NO! NO/NEVER! NOT!

"her elfin ways...unpredictable, random 'n radical"

Spring is **'sprung!'** In a **"Ta-Da!"** she comes up stage!
She leaps 'n plays given to illusions of 'slight-of-summer' tricks
she spurts in sizes, experiments in growth,
her shoots and sprouts are irresistibly spore-addict;
see her lives - one here TALL - over there, another limp, it falls,
one "At-Attention" straight up; a third, not to cavort
bends but does not touch
still another sleepily awakes, a short, stout, stubby sort.

Springs' textures, tones, highlights 'n hues
are dashed, splashed and pinged, she's smooth yet she pokes
her elfin ways, uneven, unpredictable, random 'n radical
unlike Summer's "gradients in green", you get my note?

Her erratic progeny, at times problematic,
are at all time playfully enigmatic,
unshackling, bubbling, whimsical
and with each approaching 'Summer' day, wafting a'romatic';
not the "Even-Keel", "Steady-as-she-goes"
of "High-Maintenance" Summer,
she conforms not, nor holds a course but sends out her army,
of over and under ground crawling zig-zag little "runners";

her name emergent, she twirls, sashays, whirls 'n giggles
even when her unfurling gown snags or in growing is torn;
about her final shape she cares not - that will come,
but TODAY - she exhales wind-swept, with **'Esprit de Corps'**;

cheering forward, her dance ascends and bends,
points, wobbles, flutters, sticks-out,
hers is not the time of uniformity, to be exact, engineered,
such is not what this Enchanter is all about;

NO! ...NO/NEVER! NOT!

is spring like that...sitting Sultan - Summer!

How can she be, **SHE** is Queen of Sultry...'dashing' e'er she goes,
'present' ing ANEW, from her plethora of wardrobe cover

Night and day, while he's asleep or awake, the seed sprouts and grows, but he does not understand how it happens. The earth produces the crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. Mark 4:27-28 (NLT)

by Ron Starich

Words of Wit & Wisdom

Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter.

- Francis Chan

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And the thing I can do, I ought. And by the grace of God, I will.

- Edward Everett Hale

David did not kill Goliath because he set out to slay giants. He set out to give sandwiches to his brothers, and Goliath got in the way.

- Rich Mullins

Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain--and most fools do. It takes character and self-control to be understanding and forgiving.

- Dale Carnegie

A Christian should use the arts to the glory of God. And not just as tracts, mind you, but as things of beauty to the praise of God. A work of art can be a doxology in itself.

- Francis Schaeffer

Are You Entering a New Season of Your Life?

by Jerry Pawlikowski

With us recently having started a new year as well as the Lenten season I am reminded of some of my writings from about 15 years ago that helped me deal with starting a 'new season' of my life (going through a divorce after 26 years of marriage). We all sometimes need to...**slow down, let go and have hope for the future**. As you read these writings I hope you are encouraged by the Holy Spirit as I was when I originally wrote them many years ago.

Slow Down

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29).

Life is too short,
Stress, not worth it,
Love, worth giving,
Peace, worth achieving,
Quiet, worth having,
Freedom, worth living,
Faith, worth believing,
God's plan, worth revealing,
Your soul, worth saving.

Letting Go

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).

Trees let go of their leaves, flowers let go of their seeds.
Clouds let go of their rain, springs let go of their water.
The sun lets go of its light, and the night lets go of its dark.
If nature all around us can let go, why can't we...
let go of our worry over things we cannot control,
let go of our guilt over things that we cannot change,
let go of our stress over things that will occur no matter what we might do, and
let go of our doubt and uncertainty that can cloud our faith in ourselves and others.

God lets go of our sins and disobedience against His will and purpose for our lives.
God let go so we can have hope through Him in this fallen world.
God let go so we can let go of our earthly lives
to share in His Kingdom on earth and beyond.

I need to say goodbye to the old and welcome the new,
to be open to new opportunities and possibilities in my life.

continued on next page >

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God Makes Tomorrows

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own” (Matthew 6:33-34).

I am glad that God creates tomorrows
so we can put the struggles of the todays
and yesterdays behind us and into the past.

God provides us hope and
a longing for His blessings.
And a better day,
a better tomorrow.

Lord, Prop Us Up

anonymous, submitted by Kathie Meredith

Every time I am asked to pray, I think of the old fellow who always prayed, “Lord, prop us up on our leanin’ side.” After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that prayer so fervently.

He answered,

Well, sir, you see it’s like this . . . I got an old barn out back. It’s been there a long time; it’s withstood a lot of weather; it’s gone through a lot of storms, and it’s stood a lot of years.

It’s still standing. But one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit. So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on its leaning side so it wouldn’t fall.

Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn. I’ve been around a long time. I’ve withstood a lot of life’s storms. I’ve withstood a lot of bad weather in life. I’ve withstood a lot of hard times, and I’m still standing, too. But I find myself leaning to one side.

I figure a lot of us get to leanin’ at times. Sometimes we get leanin’ toward anger, leanin’ toward bitterness, leanin’ toward hatred, leanin’ toward a lot of things we shouldn’t (unforgiveness, pride, impatience, and downright meanness).

So we need to pray, “Lord, prop us up on our leanin’ side, so we will stand straight and tall again, to glorify you, Lord..”

Worship With Us This Month

Worship with us on Sundays at 10am. You may join us either in-person or online. Our worship service is livestreamed on Vimeo and Youtube; links are provided on our website.

When joining us online, please check-in using the “Connect Card” located under the worship tab at the upper left corner of our homepage — we want to know you’re worshipping with us!

The “Connect Card” may also be used to submit prayer requests and/or praise reports during our worship service or any time.

You may give your tithes and offerings to the Lord through the church via the “donate” button at the lower left corner of our homepage.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving — we believe God is doing great things through the ministry of his church!

What’s Happening

On-Going Weekly Events

Sunday

Adult Bible Study taught by Rev. Jim Vanderwall in the Library, 8:30-9:30am.

Monday

Conley’s Bell Ringers rehearse in the Fellowship Hall, 7:30-8:30pm.

Tuesday

Over 50 Yoga in the Fellowship Hall, 10:30—11:45am. Bring your own mat and bottled water. Cost is \$10 per session, cash only.

Wednesday

Soup for the Soul provides free lunch and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall, 11am-1pm. Contributions are welcome; sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

Thursday

Adult Bible Study: He Chose the Nails, taught by Karen Lessey in the Fellowship Hall, 10-11:30am.

Adult Bible Study: He Chose the Nails, taught by Susan Davis in the Fellowship Hall, 7-8:30pm.

Happening This Month

Discernment Bible Study taught by Pastor Bill Davis in the Fellowship Hall, Wednesdays (March 1, 8, 15, 22), 6:30-7:30pm. This study is part of Conley’s process of disaffiliation discernment.

Youth & Family Night, Sunday, March 5th, 6:30-8pm. Pizza, games, and Christian fellowship, open to the community for families with children.

United Women in Faith will meet Saturday, March 11, 9am, in the Fellowship Hall. This is a business meeting focusing on the kickoff of Fall Festival planning.

The Church Council will meet Thursday, March 16, 6:30pm, in the Library.

Reminder

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12. Don’t forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour!

Opportunities to Be a Blessing

New Opportunities

Join Conley's Sight and Sound Team!

We are in need of people on Sunday mornings to operate the soundboard, screen projection computer, and livestream computer. Are you computer literate; are you willing to learn? Our friendly Sight and Sound Team will train you so that you can take a turn in this ministry that supports Sunday worship.

Conley's is in Need of a Communion Steward

This ministry opportunity requires coming to church a half hour early on the first Sunday of the month to set up the elements for Holy Communion.



On-Going Opportunities

Greeters

A friendly welcome at the door makes a great first impression—both for new comers and regular attenders. Help get people ready for worship with a warm welcome to all and helpful directions to visitors.

Ushers

You can help worshipers by directing them to open seats and bringing a microphone for prayers and praises, and providing helpful directions as needed.

Contact the church office if you would like to serve your Conley's Church family in any of these capacities; 302-945-1881

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

if it is serving, then serve;

if it is teaching, then teach;

if it is to encourage, then give encouragement;

if it is giving, then give generously;

if it is to lead, do it diligently;

if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

ROMANS 12:4-8

**Conley's United
Methodist Church**

began as a Methodist society in 1800 and was incorporated as a Methodist church in 1838.

Our Mission:
To make disciples
of Jesus Christ.

Notable Days in March

- 2nd John Wesley died (1791)
- 3rd World Day of Prayer
- 12th Daylight Saving Time begins
- 17th St. Patrick's Day
- 19th UMCOR Sunday
- 20th First Day of Spring
- 29th Charles Wesley died (1788)

Conley's United Methodist Church

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www.conleysumc.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

