

August

Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church

www.nelsonmemorialumc.org

August 2022

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“Unexpected Obstacles”

“Wow, look at that! Beautiful!” We said these words many times on our drive to and from Washington D.C. this past week. It had been more than 20 years since I last drove east, through the Appalachian Mountains. I had forgotten their beauty and how different they are from the Rockies. Our last couple of family vacations included trips to or through the Rockies and experiencing their grandeur was impressive.



As we were driving through the Appalachians something dawned on me--these mountains didn't prepare any early settlers for the Rockies. (These reflections are better explained and explored in the book [Canoeing the Mountains](#), by Tod Bolsinger.) When Lewis and Clark and other explorers first embarked on trips west of the Mississippi, the Appalachians were the only mountains they had ever encountered. Don't get me wrong, the Appalachian Mountains provide challenging and difficult terrain, but the tallest of these peaks on our drive had an elevation of approximately 2,800 feet. In contrast, when we were in Colorado, we drove across several mountains of 14,000 feet or more.

Think about the idea of encountering an unexpected obstacle five times more difficult and challenging than you have ever experienced before. When Lewis and Clark left on their expedition, they were prepared for the Appalachian Mountains with elevation levels of nearly 3,000 feet. They were not ready

for elevation that would be five times more than that! How could they be? They likely never dreamed that elevation like that existed.

We were discussing this on our drive (don't you wish you traveled with me) - the idea of being required to adapt quickly to circumstances you never dreamed would happen (think March 2020). It requires a whole different skill set and level of training to conquer these unknown obstacles, including the mindset of being willing to do things you've never done (or needed to do) before. This means moving past a mindset of "we've never done it this way before" or "we've always done it this way." We can't face new obstacles--obstacles we never imagined could exist--using the same mindset we've always used. We must be ready to adapt to the changing circumstances.

This applies to all of us as the pace of change (both positive and negative) seems to be coming at rate we've never experienced before. How are we, as individuals, prepared to face the unknown? How are we, as a church, prepared to face ministry in a world vastly different from what we have known? Are we willing to do the new things necessary to face these unexpected circumstances? What are the new practices, habits, and skills you (and we) need to develop to face the new terrain of ministry in 2022 and beyond?

It can be terrifying and exciting to face the unexpected. How we feel about it depends largely upon our attitude. How do you feel about facing unexpected obstacles and opportunities?

Blessings,

Chris

Prayer Ministry



Did you know that every Wednesday morning a group of dedicated prayer warriors meets for about 15 minutes (over Zoom) to pray for our church, our members, our community, our world, and any other needs that arise? If this sounds like something you would be interested in participating in, please contact the church office at: (boonvillemethodist@gmail.com).

Choir is Back!



Choir rehearsals for the Methodist Music Makers will be the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the sanctuary. We are always welcoming new singers and hope to see you there! Choir rehearsals for the month of August: August 2nd, August 16th, and an optional rehearsal on August 30th. Please contact Sara Snyder or Leah Gumbel for additional information.

S'mores N' More



Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend our bonfire event on Wednesday, August 10 which is National S'mores Day. Philip Wooldridge will be providing music for this event. It will be held on the church lawn at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there! Bring along a lawn chair or a blanket. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors to join in as we celebrate this "holiday".

Blood Drive



Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is coming up Monday, August 15th from 1:00 to 6:00 in our Fellowship Hall. As happens most summers, the supply of blood available is in short supply and donors are greatly needed. To schedule a time for donating blood go to: redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive. Thank you!

Looking for New KIDS HOPE Mentors



With the start of a new school year quickly approaching also comes the start of KIDS HOPE mentoring in September. If you are interested in becoming a new mentor, to a child at David Barton Elementary, you can do two things: 1) talk to one of our current mentors about the experience and difference this makes, and 2) let Debbie Maxwell, our KIDS HOPE Coordinator know that you are interested!

Church Picnic August 28 – Time for Some Food and Fun



The United Methodist Men are hosting our Annual Church Picnic Sunday, August 28 at 6:00 pm. We will gather at the church yard. UMM will provide the meat and drinks. Please bring a dish to share and also a (lawn chair or blanket). Feel free to invite friends, family and neighbors to join in on the fun.

Back to School Time!



Children, young adults, and teachers will be back in school this month. Our Sunday school classes will be expecting, and ready for, new students and those who have been gone over the summer. Our Kids Hope program will be back at David Barton to mentor children at risk. Here are some things you can do:

- + Pray for our teachers and students
- + Volunteer and be trained to be a Kids Hope mentor
- + Ask a teacher how you can help their classroom be more successful (supplies, reading to students, etc.)
- + Ask God how you can use your gifts to help with Children's Church, Sunday school classes, and youth group
- + Start looking to cooler weather, when we will distribute coats to children in need, and look for good deals
- + Let the children in your life know you care about their education; talk with them and encourage them!

AUGUST 2022 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting, FH	2 7:00 am - 7:00 pm Primary Election, FH 7:00 pm - Choir Practice	3 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	4 6:00 pm - Praise Band Rehearsal	5 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, FH	6
7	8 9:00 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al- Anon Meeting, Lounge, FH	9 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm PEO fellowship Hall 6:30 pm NAMI	10 10:15 am – Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH 7:00 pm - S'mores N' More, Church Yard	11 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Baby Grace Size and Sort	12 8:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	13 8:30 UM Men
14 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Youth Group Meeting at the Jackson	15 9:00 am TOPS 1:00 - 6:00 pm Blood Drive, FH 8:00 pm – Al- Anon Meeting, FH	16 6:00 pm - Administrative Board Meeting, FH 7:00 pm - Choir Practice	17 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	18 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Baby Grace Distribution 6:00 pm - Praise Band Rehearsal	19 8:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	20 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, 4-H Group, FH
21	22 9:00 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al- Anon Meeting, FH	23 School Starts	24 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	25	26 8:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	27
28 6:00 pm - Church Picnic 6:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting at the Picnic	29 9:00 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al- Anon Meeting, FH	30 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm United Methodist Foundation, FH	31 10:15 am - Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH			



August Birthdays

<p>1 Linda Gordon</p> <p>2 Abigail Wax, Magdalena Wax</p> <p>4 Jessica Brownfield, Caden Ruesing☺</p> <p>7 Elena Baker, Mike Krohn, Bill Siebert</p> <p>10 Austin Krohn</p> <p>18 Ron Lenz, Meredith Stretz</p> <p>20 Teresa Graham, Leslie Reardon, Pastor Chris Snyder</p>	<p>21 Morgan Baker</p> <p>23 Wiley McVicker</p> <p>24 Christine Schmidt</p> <p>25 Justin Wood</p> <p>26 Elvin Farquhar</p> <p>27 Becky Fredrich/Stotts, Charlotte King</p> <p>29 Mary Beth Schnell, Ed Tiff</p> <p>31 Natasha Windsor/Ruesing☺</p>
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