



Sunday School
9:15 a.m.

Sunday Morning
Worship
10:30 a.m.

THE SOUTH END SOURCE

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

Reflections on our Summer Programs with Young People

As I look back over the summer and listen to reactions to our summer activities with young people, **my overriding conclusion is that we strengthened relationships and built new ones in the name of Christ.**

Our young people (rising 3rd – 10th graders) spent most of a week together in June, based at the church but serving at VBS at Haywood Lane Apts. and doing many other things. I sensed that we all grew that week in our understanding of who we are as members of the body of Christ, gifted and challenged by the Holy Spirit – relationships!

Our youngest children spent just one VBS morning in August together with parents or grandparents. What I saw was families within the congregation getting better acquainted as part of a larger faith community in which they are choosing to raise their children – relationships!

We worked closely with representatives from several local UM churches (Belmont, Crieewood, and West End) and two visiting UM youth groups -- **to bring VBS to children at Haywood Lane Apt. complex in June.** When you come to a place for six mornings and offer what you think may be of worth about Jesus and the love of God, **you can never really know what it will mean or how it will be received, but here is what I observed:**

- We gathered for singing, a Bible story, a related craft or two, books to read with children, games to play together and a healthy snack each of the six mornings. As those of us bringing the VBS would arrive and begin setting up our things in the common area of the apt. complex, we would see children (15-40 of various ages) coming out of their apartments with parents or under their watchful eye, bearing books they had borrowed and ready to go for the morning.
- We observed parents with infants in their arms smiling and looking down on the VBS activities from their apartment windows.
- When June was over, those of us who pick up a family of boys at that apt complex each week for Sunday School at SEUMC often run into children we do not know by name - who ask if we are coming back and they point to the common area where we held VBS! – relationships!
- We recognized many of the older children as having been at our VBS/Summer Fun Day Camp during the last three summers. These older children consistently asked Lee Tomlin and I, “When are we coming to your church this summer?” I asked one of the children what she most liked and remembered from those past summers and she said, “Everything!” -- relationships!

Finally, we (South End and Belmont UMC) took cues from these older children we knew from past summers (entering 4th – 8th grades) and had them come to SEUMC for six half days in July. We spent the time mostly working on language and reading – through nuancing the same Bible passages as our kids used in June (1 Corinthians 13 and the Lord’s Prayer), working with maps, talking through simple science projects (from a former Cokesbury VBS curriculum), learning to use recipes, and just reading short books or portions of books with them. We played games, talked around the tables, cooked and ate together – relationships!

So here we ask the hard questions: Do these activities bring children and adults to know Jesus? Do they strengthen their faith and their connection with other Christians? Will these activities prevent young people from joining gangs or dropping out of school or other harmful things? Will they help to raise up leaders, mature Christian youth and adults? Do these activities allow us to better know our community? Do these endeavors change us?

In the near future, folks from all these UM churches will be meeting to reflect together on those questions as we move forward in serving in the name of Christ in our immediate community. If you want to be part of that conversation, please let me know!!

Yours in Christ,

Ann Cover

PASTOR

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9am-2pm

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Ministry Intern
Erica Allen

Music Leader ~
Rick Rains

Pianist ~ Jim Kirby

Administrative Asst.
Gerrie Grimsley

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SOUTH END PRESCHOOL

DIRECTOR
KAMELA BATTLE
*ASST. DIRECTOR &
NURSERY COORD.*
ROBERT DODD

Wednesday Night Gatherings

5:30 pm ~ Fellowship Meal

6:15 pm ~ Program or Non-Traditional Worship
(Study/Music/Intergenerational and Specific Age Level Activities)

7:15 pm ~ Chancel Choir Practice

September 8-October 2 ~ Bible Study led by Erica Allen

Programming for young people (Ann Cover and Earnie Hickerson)

October 9 ~ Non Traditional Worship

October 16 ~ Presentation by Amy Charleton (Summer Mission in Africa)

All Wednesday nights will begin with a few songs led by Rick Rains, Earnie Hickerson, Jerry Duncan and Jim Kirby

In September, our young people will be working with Jerry, Earnie and Ann to participate in worship services in October, November and December: choosing to singing with an adult ensemble, or making banners, or working power point, or readings/short skits, or playing hand bells or other instruments.

Church Calendar

September 8 (this Sunday) ~ No Administrative Council Meeting.
~ **Pot Luck Fellowship Meal immediately following worship**

September 15 (Sunday)

~ Habitat Build Day

~ Weekday Preschool Board Meeting immediately following worship

September 19 (Thursday) at 6:00 p.m.

~ Charge Conference

September 22 (Sunday)

~ SPRC Meeting following worship

~ **6:30 p.m. Evening of Song and Testimony/Pam Weston** (Sanctuary)

Followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall. - Love offering accepted.

We Need Your Help In Replacing Our Kitchen Tiles

Within the last three years we have made significant repairs to the tiles in the church kitchen floor in Fellowship Hall. We are now at the point of needing to redo the entire flooring surfaces. The tiles are cracked and loose and have become tripping hazards and an overall safety issue.

We all know about the wonderful meals prepared in our kitchen for congregational fellowship meals and Wednesday night suppers. Our church kitchen provides an important outreach and hospitality ministry in areas such as preparing meals for Room in the Inn, distributing boxes of food for the summer food program, serving meals to children during Vacation Bible School, and many other activities.

Over the next month, we will be collecting a special offering to go towards replacing the floor. Our goal is to raise \$3,500 by October 11th in an effort to replace the flooring while the preschool is on fall break. The kitchen is heavily used by everyone within the church.

If you would like to give towards this special offering over the next month, please mark your donation as "kitchen floor" and place in the offering during church. You may also donate online.

Thank you for your continuing support.

The 2013-2014 Cal Turner Program Lecture Series begins with two lectures in September

The CTP is proud to present: **Canon Andrew White, the Vicar of Baghdad**
September 12 @ 5 p.m. Vanderbilt Divinity School, Reading Room
Reception to follow in Tillett Lounge



Faith and Leadership Under Fire in the Middle East

In this presentation, Canon Andrew White will discuss the extraordinary story of his ministry in leading St. George's Baghdad, one of the largest churches in Iraq and located in the Red Zone of Baghdad. Canon White will discuss the leadership challenges he faces as the Vicar of St. George's Baghdad as it provides a spiritual home, medical care and humanitarian relief to neighbors of the church in the face of great danger to Canon White and the church's staff and congregants in a region of increasing chaos and sectarian strife. Canon White will also discuss his conflict mediation and reconciliation efforts throughout the Middle East, including leading the negotiations to end the Siege of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem in 2002.

Registration is not required but appreciated:
<http://vanderbilt.edu/ctp/CannonWhitelecture.php>

The CTP in partnership with One is pleased to present:
Roger Thurow, Senior Fellow, Global Agriculture and Food Policy,
The Chicago Council on Global Affairs
Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 5:00 in the afternoon
Vanderbilt Divinity School, Room 122
Reception to follow in Tillett Lounge

Roger Thurow joined The Chicago Council on Global Affairs as senior fellow for global agriculture and food policy in January 2010 after three decades at *The Wall Street Journal*. For 20 years, he served as a *Journal* foreign correspondent, based in Europe and Africa. His coverage of global affairs spanned the Cold War, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the release of Nelson Mandela, the end of apartheid, the wars in the former Yugoslavia and the humanitarian crises of the first decade of this century.

In 2003, he and *Journal* colleague Scott Kilman wrote a series of stories on famine in Africa that was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in International Reporting.

In May 2012, Thurow published his second book, *The Last Hunger Season: A Year in an African Farm Community on the Brink of Change*. This book offers an incisive account of the realities of living under the conditions of hunger, and examines the causes and solutions to it. He comes to Vanderbilt to discuss the need for strong leadership on the issue of hunger in the world, an issue of global significance.



Registration is not required but appreciated:
<http://vanderbilt.edu/ctp/RogerThurowlecture.php>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

David Cannon 9/1
Gen. Bill Jones 9/4
Regas Scott 9/5
Savannah Tomlin 9/7
Ruth Ann Looney 9/11

Kathie Collett 9/14
Suzie Harlan 9/15
Carol Fager 9/21
Linda Garvey 9/21
Ed Marks 9/23

Ernest Blair 9/25
Matthew Jones 9/26
Eddie Collett 9/28



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

