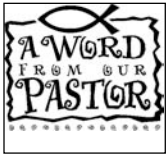


The Circuit Writer

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“A Journey”

“Which place do you want to go canoeing this evening?” I asked my brother and sister in law. It had been

one of those hot days, and we were just trying to keep cool during the day. As the evening temperature dropped, we were ready to paddle.

There are many places near our house to go canoeing. They weighed the possibilities, and then almost made the decision that we would go canoe down the Muskellunge Creek. I took it as an answer. Sometimes they can take a long time to make a decision.

As for me, I was not excited about the choice. I had seen the creek, and with the warm weather the high temperature of the water had encouraged all sorts of plant growth in the creek. It would be murky paddling down the shallow creek. I said, “Well, we can go there and if you change your mind, we can go someplace else.”

When we arrived, they were pleased with their choice. So, we unloaded the canoes, put in the water, and slowly worked our way through the swamp.

Muskellunge Creek moves slowly into Muskellunge Bay that joins with Black River Bay that becomes Sacketts Harbor. There was no one else around as we approached the bay. The sun was just beginning to move to the horizon, with the reds and oranges that come with summer sunsets. Terns that were unfazed by our presence, kept diving for fish near our small fleet of canoes. Red wing blackbirds cackled near us. And we sat and watched it all.

Then in a distance we discovered two huge white birds standing in the water. They strolled along a stand of cattails, fishing for their meal. We watched from a distance, knowing we had not enough time to move closer to see what kind of birds they were, and then make it back to the dock before it got

dark.

But as I sat and gazed at the bright whiteness against the darkening colors of the marsh and bay, it set me to thinking about how the life of faith can be.

Sometimes we reluctantly travel down a way that seems not good enough for us. Sometimes we travel down a narrow murky way only to find the vastness of God’s will for our lives. And then, in that expanse, we see the purity, the brightness and casualness of the love of God in this old world.

We paddled back to the dock, and loaded the canoes onto the trailer. The trip was over for the day. However, in my thoughts, in my prayers, I have made the trip again and again.

Rev. Bradford Hunt

School of Congregational Development

Every year the United Methodist Church had a school of congregational development that seeks to equip and train leaders in the United Methodist Church. It is one of the most dynamic events that the denomination creates every year. This year it will be held in Nashville, from July 29-August 2. (search gbgm, School of Congregational Development)

Aaron Limmo and I will be attending this year. We look forward to learning, and for Aaron to meet some of the leaders of the denomination from around the country. This will be helpful for the development of our New World Ministries.

Rev. Bradford Hunt

Weekly Worship planning!

If you wish to go the next step in worshiping God, and expressing your love for God, come and help plan a worship service. Every week we gather to discuss worship, the scriptures, and create a new worship from scratch. It is a wonderful way of

serving God.

Worship Planning Meeting for both the 9am and 10:30am services. All are invited to attend and join in the planning for these services at 6:30pm each Sunday evening. We will begin together and then divide to plan each worship.

**Worship
the LORD** in
August
2010!

Worship Services are held ---
Sunday at 9:00am and 10:30am
Sunday School for children—9:30am;
and Youth -11:45am

August 1: Guest worship leader. We will have one worship service at 9:30 outside.

August 8: Samuel is the character we will learn from on this Sunday. Can you guess which book of the Bible the story can be found in? We will celebrate communion on this day.

August 15: Aaron Limmo will be leading the worship.

August 22: Aaron Limmo will again be leading the worship.

August 29: We will hear the story of Elijah from I Kings 17. This prophet and servant of God will be the subject for our worship.

The Joys and Concerns of the Family of Andrews-

Joys shared was the marriages of Ashley Cochran and Michael Jones and Nicole LaShombe and Joshua Felix.

Sympathies we share as the Andrews family are extended to the family of Barbara Heggens



Outreach in Action

The Westside Food Pantry is located at the corner of Davis and Geddes Streets in Syracuse at Brown Memorial Church. Andrews collects food on the first Sunday of each month for the food pantry.

For the month June, 2010 the pantry served: 194 families which included 309 adults, 211 children,

and 18 elderly for a total of 538 people or 6,456 meals for three meals a day for four days. God is pleased when we help those who need assistance.



Cradle and Beyond Mission Statement: To provide affordable quality clothing and essentials for children and the community.

With warm weather and summer upon us the Cradle and beyond Store has a great selection of summer clothing. Check out the Pennysaver for sales and coupons.

There is a need for additional volunteers especially on Saturdays. Volunteering for just a few hours would make all the difference. Please help if you can by talking with Beth Schnipp, myself or call the church office. Students needing volunteers hours for school credits or those who just wish to serve should also call the church office. What a great way to serve God and the community while having fun.

Donations of good used clothing and gently used household items are always needed with a Special need for infant, toddler and children's clothing. Please no TV's, Computers or microwave ovens.

"In everything I have pointed out to you [by example] that, by working diligently in this manner, we ought to assist the weak, being mindful of the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, It is more blessed (makes one happier and more to be envied) to give than to receive." Acts 20: 35



Southern Sudan Health Projects

The amazing progress of the recent Sudan trip continues to challenge

us to take the next step in organizing and in funding. Arrangements are being made for the training of our 8 Home Health Promoters (HHP). When that is complete, supervision is in place, we will then work to equip each of the HHP's. This will include transportation (bicycle), office supplies, and other basic needs.

We are in the process of finding the best source of

medicine (over-the counter) for the HHP's to supply.

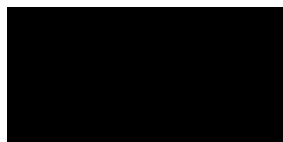
It is an amazing opportunity to be about the mission of Jesus Christ in one of the most undeveloped communities in the world.

As the promotion for funding develops, there are plans to have four categories of opportunities to give:

1. Latrine construction at \$250 (there have been 10 built so far)
2. Funding of salaries and equipping the 8 HHP's (2-3 thousand dollars)
3. Funding for Medicine
4. General Fund

Andrews continues to work with other UM Churches in the development of this mission project.

Rev. Bradford Hunt



By Aaron Limmo

We as the New World Ministries come together at James Street UMC three

days a week. On Friday's we gather from 5:30pm – 9pm as a community for different activities, playing games and enjoying refreshments. On Saturday's from 1pm—2pm the choirs practice and from 2pm—8pm we again enjoy time as a community doing a variety of activities. On Sunday's from 2pm-3pm the adults participate in Bible Study and from 3pm—4:30pm we have worship time. Sunday School for the children is 2pm—4pm. From 4:30pm— 6pm we gather again for refreshments. We are hoping to expand our time on Friday's two more hours.

On Saturday, July 17, all the Sudanese community came together at Trinity Lutheran Church at Shop City to welcome a Sudanese Catholic pastor from 7pm—12am. We as the New World Ministries were given the chance to present two songs. This day reminded me of the time back in the camp where I worked because this pastor encouraged everyone who is going to church to hear God's word. This guest pastor came to this country for rebuilding of the community and to pray for the church because many in Awil church are with life and even if we are from other denominations we need to be the church together.

Needed: Piano Lessons!

Aman Ayol is about 14 years old and is part our congregation that meets at James Street UMC. She has a desire to learn piano, but coming from a

large refugee family, they cannot afford the lessons. She has started taking lessons from Maryna Mazhukhova, our organist/pianist for the 9:00am worship. Maryna has seen her natural ability, and is excited about working with her. If you would like to help fund Aman's piano lessons, please place a special offering in the offering plate, or send funds to the church office.



News

By Kathy La Duca

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of the man who was my pastor, mentor, surrogate father and friend during his 25 years of ministry at my home church where he served as pastor. Participating in his memorial service was the final thing I could do for my pastor.

Funerals and memorial services are services of resurrection. They are times to celebrate the life of a person. How little most of us feel like celebrating at those times. So I went to Albany – full of sadness, regretting that I hadn't stayed more in touch in those last months, wondering how his daughter (once a very close friend of mine) and his wife were doing.

It was an experience – a good one for many reasons. One of the things I brought away from it was the number of people I saw, talked to, shared with who were in some way a part of my faith journey – helping me to grow in faith, follow God's will and be on the faith journey I continue to this day. Standing at the lectern looking out over the congregation I saw so many people who made a difference in my life.

There were the people who we all might suspect – the bishop, synod staff and pastors from the synod. There were men who had been interns in our church when I was a youth - young men at the time, who were excited to be entering ministry and having the opportunity to share their faith with young people. There were friends who I knew from Sunday School, youth ministry and seminary. There were members of my immediate and extended family who nurtured my faith from the day I was born.

There were also so many other people who helped me grow in faith that I typically don't think about. There was my pastor's secretary, now well into her 80's. She would answer the phone when I called from college or seminary needing a listening ear and someone to care. There were the Sunday School teachers who shared their faith and gave of their time. There were the parents of my friends who

always supported us as youth – providing rides, opening their homes, or chaperoning a youth event so that we could spend time in Christian fellowship. There were members of the congregation who were supportive in their relationship with us – welcoming young people – smiling, asking us how we were doing, being happy for us as we grew in our faith, wanting us to be around the church, praying for us. They also supported us financially by giving their money to support opportunities for youth and seminary students to grow in faith.

Despite the sadness of the gathering we were all pleased to see each other and enjoy fellowship and ministering to each other during a difficult time. As I walked into the office wing I was greeted by name by a man I had not seen in over 20 years. He came over hugged me and said, “This is really difficult.” He was our second intern – a man our pastor had mentored and who had later become a close friend. How good that, despite the passage of time, we still had a relationship that endured partly due to how it began and partly due to our pastor keeping us all connected through stories and conversation.

I tell you all of this as a way of reminding us all that it takes a village to raise a child and a church to nurture his or her faith. We are all called to build relationships with and share in the nurturing of children’s faith. What has helped us each to become who we are as Christians are all those who took seriously their responsibility to each person they met on Sunday morning - not just their friends, not just the adults, not just the people who are deemed important – but even the young child who might be full of energy, or the youth that is restless, or the teenagers who are giggling. Those young people someday become the leaders, the pastors, the teachers, the parents in our churches. Who they become is at least partly dependant on how we nurture their faith and love them.

Thanks be to God for all those who went before us and shared God’s love and their faith with us!

I have a church email address which is kladuca@andrewsmemorial-umc.org. If you have thoughts or suggestions around Christian Education programming email me. I am always glad to hear from you.

Sunday School in North Syracuse

Sunday School for children will continue throughout the summer. It will continue to be at 9:30 am. During August we will be studying the stories of God’s people. We hope to see you there!

The youth class which is held after the 10:30

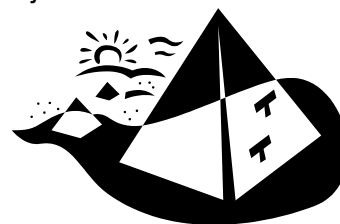
service continues during the summer. We have been studying Community with a Mission and Teachings of Jesus. During August we will be working on the Teachings of the Church. All youth are invited to join us. We share a meal, grow in faith and share fellowship!

Sunday School at New World Ministries

New World Ministries Sunday School continues during the summer as well! We use the same curriculum with them as we do with the children in North Syracuse. We made boats as we learned about Paul’s shipwreck, learned about Solomon’s temple and talked about the Promised Land.

The older children have been continuing to practice their reading, writing, spelling and math skills as they learn about God. We often manage to find lessons that not only help them to learn Bible stories but also give them the opportunity to practice academic skills that they need for school. This is so important during the summer when school is out.

We could really use more help. Classes are Sundays from 2-3:30 pm. As the group grows so does the need for adults who are willing to be there, help with projects and love the children. If you are willing to help with this ministry, share God’s love with some wonderful children and grow in your faith please contact me. You are welcome to join us as little as once a month or as often as every week. Come join us!



Come Join Us!!

Survivor – Out of Egypt

Vacation Bible School 2010

August 23rd – 26th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm will be our second Vacation Bible School opportunity this summer, for children entering Kindergarten through youth entering 7th grade. Held here at Andrews, this VBS will give children and youth the opportunity to learn more about Moses, enjoy activities with others their age and have an exciting opportunity to grow in faith before the beginning of the school year. Will the groups be able to complete their challenges? Will they find their way out of Egypt to the Promised Land? Will they have fun while participating in

The universe in line.



The universe on the move!



Balloon launch with our thanks of a great VBS and what we are thankful for.

