

Weekly Update: May 3, 2016

A word from Pastor Darryl

This past weekend I was invited to help facilitate a conversation between the General Board of Global Ministries, the United Church of Canada (Toronto Conference representatives) and our Toronto Zimbabwe United Methodist sisters and brothers. Rev. Alfiado Zunguza who was present at the meetings is the Area Liaison (Africa) – the office of Global Mission Connections of GBGM. The basic purpose of our meeting was to understand how United Methodists, as settled immigrants in Canada, can continue to share their faith experiences as United Methodists in a covenant relationship such as the United Methodist Church, USA has with the United Church of Canada, agreeing to not establish individual denominations USA and Canada respectively. One of the realities we are faced with in North America and the United Kingdom is that as immigrants arrive from places where the UMC has churches around the world, they are seeking to form faith communities in the way they have always practiced their faith. So we now know that United Methodists from various parts of Africa, the Philippines and South Korea in Canada, England and Ireland are gathering on their own as United Methodist groups. The conversation, the worship and fellowship in Toronto this past weekend were rich, engaging and affirming of our UM sisters and brothers from around the world. So what's the solution to honoring the covenant relationship between the UMC and the UCC? One of the options now being explored is to consider having the General Board of Global Ministries work in partnership with them to assign missionaries to Canada for these specific mission contexts through the GBGM Missionary Placement Program. The UCC will provide institutional support so that there will be no need to establish United Methodist churches in Canada. It is a positive way forward and as I pointed out to the Toronto Zimbabwe UM folks, they are about to pioneer a new way of extending hospitality to settled immigrants in Canada – a missionary endeavor from the South (developing countries) to the North (developed countries – the place and church that “sent the missionaries”). As always, I am praying for you and with you daily. May God's love and blessings be always with you, and my love to all of you. Invite someone to join us for worship this and every Sunday!

Sunday Highlights – This past Sunday we gathered in the Parlor for 9 am worship due to lack of heat in the west wing of the church. Graciella Cordero (with her parents, Michelle and Jeremiah) joined us for worship for the first time. She and Sophia Swist, with their sweet baby sounds, provided a reminder of the new beginnings and new life coming into our church community. Rev. Jim Pollard brought a message of the presence and peace of Christ that is present in our world today through the actions of people who help, heal and stand alongside others in all kinds of circumstances. God works in ways we don't always realize or notice— in the face of the harsh realities of life in a turbulent and even violent world. We see Jesus' promise of an Advocate fulfilled through unselfish, compassionate action. As Reuben Job describes in his Three Simple Rules—Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God. We received signs of the gift of Christ's presence and peace as we shared the bread and cup, ordinary substances of our everyday life, that become extraordinary reminders of Jesus' love and companionship each and every day.

Daily Bible Reading – 2016 Shaping Our Life Experience

Excerpts from both the Old and New Testament are included each day. This is a great way to support your ongoing growth in faith and the Christ Church community as well.

May 3: 1 Kings 6-7; Luke 23:27-38

May 4: 1 Kings 8-9; Luke 23:39-56

May 5: 1 Kings 10-11; Luke 24:1-35

May 6: 1 Kings 12-13; Luke 24:36-53

May 7: 1 Kings 14-15; John 1:1-28

May 8: 1 Kings 16-18; John 1:29-51

May 9: 1 Kings 19-20; John 2

May 10: 1 Kings 21-22; John 3:1-21

In Our Prayers

Patty Keller –recovering from surgery at home; **Elvira Gonzalez** – rehab at Weinberg Campus;

Glenn Hurst – at home; **Gaetano Castellino Sr.** – Waterfront Rehab Facility

John Lopez – health concerns; **Nancy & Frank Annunciata** - recovering at home

All who are caregivers for others **New pastor appointment process**

Alex Dunbar, Lindsey Darling & Ian Johnson* (deployed) – all serve in the US Navy

JOY! Current doctoral student and Yale School of Music alumnus **Samuel S. Suggs '14 MM**, will join the faculty of **James Madison University School of Music** as **Assistant Professor of Bass**; his appointment will begin in fall 2016.

Suggs' impressive list of recent accomplishments includes a feature as **Musical America's Artist of the Month** (October, 2015) and a first-place win at the 2015 International Society of Bassists Solo Competition. He is the only bassist to win the Beijing International Music Festival Competition and was the youngest principal bassist of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. **Way to go Sam!!!**

This Week at Christ Church

Tuesday, May 3 – 7:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, May 4 – 6:30 pm – Praise Team rehearsal
7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 5 - 10:00 am – Life Lessons with Pastor Darryl
7:00 pm – Circle of Joy
7:00 pm – Elizabeth Circle

Friday, May 6 - 10:00 am – Books We Have Loved

Saturday, May 7- 10:00 am – UM Women – Wells of Love w/ Kathy Weaver Breakfast \$5
10:00 am – UM Men – Visit to the Eternal Flame – Chestnut Ridge Park
Carpool from the church

Sunday, May 8 - 7th Sunday of Easter Ascension Sunday Mother's Day

“Revitalizing Our Wesleyan Heritage – Susannah Wesley”

Opportunities to Make A Difference

Food Pantry - suggested items:

May 1 – Cereal – hot, cold or bars **May 8 – Canned meat –tuna, chicken, salmon**

*All food items, paper products and toiletry items are welcome anytime.
Grocery carts are available in the church for your donations. Thank you!*

We're Collecting! - Check around your home as you do your Spring cleaning!

Baby Clothes – newborn to 6X - **for Baby Blessings**

Clothing Items – new & gently used - **for Clara's Closet**

Women's interview appropriate suits and blouses,

Professional separates, work appropriate shoes, jewelry, scarves,

handbags – reg. & plus sizes - **For Dress For Success**

Clothing & shoes in any condition – **for Planet Aid**

Art supplies for children (paper, markers, paints, etc) - **for University Heights Arts Association**

And don't forget the Shredding truck will be here on Sunday, May 15 to safely shred your documents, papers and files. (Provided by Allaire Financial Strategies)

Offer Hospitality - Host the Cafe

Sign up on the bulletin board in the café to host some Sunday morning! Invite your family, friends, ministry team or group to join you!

Share in this Café ministry of hospitality and welcome.

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Upcoming event...

Follow along

Not every United Methodist will be a delegate to General Conference, but that doesn't mean that you can't participate in all that is happening May 10-20, 2016, in Portland, Oregon. General Conference is the global gathering of The United Methodist Church, and there are plenty of ways for you to be involved. - See more at: <http://um-insight.net/general-conference/2016-general-conference/every-united-methodist-can-be-part-of-general-conference-201/#sthash.SLHHxiGP.dpuf>

Our computers, phones, and tablets are giving us more ways to stay connected with General Conference than ever before.

Bookmark the website. GC2016.UMC.org is the source for everything about General Conference 2016. News, blogs, resources, videos and photos about everything happening at General Conference are available in this central location. United Methodist Communications will update this page throughout the General Conference with the latest news and daily summaries that share the highlights of each day.

Watch the live stream. Whenever the conference is in session, GC2016.UMC.org will feature live streaming video where you will be able to watch the voting, worship, speeches, and celebrations happening on the floor of General Conference. The feed will be available in English, French, and American Sign Language. The schedule is available online, just remember all times listed are Pacific Time Zone, and you may have to adjust.

- See more at: <http://um-insight.net/general-conference/2016-general-conference/every-united-methodist-can-be-part-of-general-conference-201/#sthash.SLHHxiGP.dpuf>

Sleepover!! Children and Youth! – Saturday, May 14 - 4 pm

We'll be filled with the Spirit for this sleepover – preparing the church for Pentecost Sunday – May 15. Projects include tie dying, banner & pin wheel making, cupcake baking & more! Join us and celebrate the birthday of the church!

Sign up on the bulletin board located at the bottom of the stairs.



Healthy Living for your Brain and Body:

Tips from the latest research

Presentation is free and open to the public

Wednesday, May 18

6-7 pm in the Cafe

Appreciation Gathering – Sunday, May 22 10-11am

Christian Education Team members will honor those who have given of their time and shared their gifts as leaders at FaithXpress during the past year. The gathering takes place in the Parlor beginning at 10 am. Join us for this informal time to recognize and express our appreciation for the love and care shown to the children and youth.

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Summer Jazz Vespers

Sunday, May 22

4:30 pm

with the

Ron Corsaro Jazz Trio

Meal to follow

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Sacred, Secular and Comedy Concert

Sunday June 5

4:00 pm – Reception to follow

With

Valerian Ruminski

Singing songs from all genres as well as a preview of music from the musical "SHOT" a story of the events of the 1901 Pan American Expo and the death of President McKinley, part of Buffalo history.

Contact Carol Teresi for details.

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"Help me, Lord, to remember that religion is not to be confined to the church... nor exercised only in prayer and meditation, but that everywhere I am in Thy Presence."

"There are two things to do about the gospel. Believe it and behave it."

- wisdom from Susanna Wesley