



**JUNE 2024** 

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## **SO GRATEFUL**

By the time this installment of the Peal is published, The Annual Conference for The West Allegheny GMC will have been concluded. I'm looking forward to being able to share with you about our conference, which I am greatly anticipating.

On the other hand, I'm still receiving information about our former denomination. I believe it would be good for our members to be informed as to what transpired at last month's General Conference for the UMC.

(The following comes from Good News Magazine, whose purpose for the time being is to try and lead the UMC into a faithful future.)

By now you probably have heard about the changes The General Conference of the UMC recently made to The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. Below you'll find a few:

- 1. Marriage was redefined to include the union of "two persons," no longer restricting marriage to one man and one woman.
- 2. Persons engaged in gay or lesbian

relationships may now be ordained as pastors and serve in the UMC.

- 3. Pastors who are single are no longer explicitly required to be celibate and adultery has been eliminated as a chargeable offense for married clergy.
- 4. The UMC position on abortion no longer states that United Methodists "are bound to respect the life and the well-being of the unborn child." Instead, there is the assertion that the UM Church upholds a person's right to an abortion.

Sadly, but not unexpectedly, the Conference refused to provide Africa the same rights those in the U.S. were given to discern God's will for their congregations and disaffiliate if so led. Churches in the U.S. that had trusted their bishops when they were told they did not need to leave until after this General Conference met, were also not given an additional path out of the denomination, enabling them to keep their property and financial assets.

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These outcomes are not really surprising. The theologically progressive leaders are now in full control of the UMC since so many orthodox-traditionalists have left and hundreds of African representative to the General Conference were disenfranchised by the UMC when it came to helping them obtain their Visas in a timely way. As you can imagine, UM Churches that were leaning toward disaffiliation are now "stuck". They still can leave, but it will be expensive and painful. I have a number of good friends who now find themselves in this position. Perhaps you know some as well. Having lamented this, they are not without hope. Just last week I learned at my Clergy Cluster Meeting that in North Alabama Conference 7,600 lay members voted with their feet to disaffiliate from the UMC. We suspect that this scenario will be repeated across the UMC worldwide in the coming months. I'm so grateful that Bellpoint was able to leave last year. So, may I strongly encourage you to pray for these clergymen and women and their respective congregations.

### Lastly – quick reminder about VBS!

The Children's Council will be hosting *Outback Rock VBS* on Friday, June 28th through Sunday, June 30th. *Outback Rock* is a weekend VBS developed by Group Publishing. We will have a Friday evening session and a Saturday morning session. Sunday there will be a brief recap and celebration during the 10:30 a.m. service. Outback Rock will help kids "venture into solid faith." If you'd like to help lead this VBS or serve as a group leader, please call Pastor Paul or leave a message with the church office. As in the past, we will also give our members the opportunity to help with the donation of materials and supplies. The sign-up sheet for supplies is in the Fellowship Hall. Flyers are now available for this event and we're encouraging our folks to pass them along to those families they believe would be interested in joining us on this great adventure. Please be praying as preparations are underway. Pray as well for the children that will be a part of this summer's VBS.

Your Servant,

# Pastor Paul



#### Contact Us

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bellpointchurch.com

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Connect with us on Facebook!

facebook.com/bellpoint

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## **Upcoming Events**

June 15 First Aid Training 9:00 a.m.

June 19 Children's Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

June 20 Ice Cream Social 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

June 21 Worship & Prayer Night 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

June 28 - June 30 Vacation Bible School

## **Sunday Morning Worship Services**

Traditional Service - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:35 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service - 10:30 a.m.

K-4th graders, come join us in Bible Adventures during second service, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

# **Bellpoint Community Church Groups**

(all groups meet at church unless otherwise stated)

- Adult and Youth Sunday School: Sunday Mornings, 9:35 a.m.
   10:30 a.m.
- **Men's Bible Study**: Every other Monday, 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Paul for additional information.
- **Bible Study Book Group**: The second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Current Study: The Holy Spirit, Activating God's Power in Your Life by Billy Graham.
- Sunday Women's Bible Study: Every other Sunday, 5:00 p.m.
   7:00 p.m. at the McCullough home. Contact Lori McCullough for additional information. Current Study: Jesus The One & Only by Beth Moore.
- Monday Women's Bible Study: Mondays, 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
- **Teen Disciples** (6th 12th grades): Sundays from 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
- Emerging Adults (high school seniors through mid-30s): Contact Kelly Solli at 740-816-9383 for additional information.
- Young Family: Biweekly at the Kraick home. Contact Holly Kraick at 317-670-5725 for additional information.

# June Birthdays

June I Hadley Tiller

June 8 Sherri Lehman

June 9 Samantha Carpenter

June 10 Susi Rinehart

Key May

June 20 Todd Westover

June 22 Tamara Counts

**June 23** Sherri Finley

June 25 Kim Hatcher

June 26 Meghan Vanhorne

June 29 David Adams

# **Happy Anniversary**

#### June 6

Jeremy & Laura Tiller Married 15 years

#### June 9

Mike & Rachel Kapraly Married 6 years

#### June II

Gary & Carol Davis Married 63 years

#### lune II

Ryan West & Jessica Ulmer-West Married 8 years

#### lune 13

Josh & Sarah Kuhn Married 9 years

#### June 14

Matt & Holly Kraick Married 21 years

#### June 14

Ken & Dianne May Married 49 years

#### June 20

Andy & Kim Prior Married 15 years

#### June 21

Ron & Sue Spessard Married 55 years

#### June 26

Jason & Kara Haney Married 26 years

#### June 29

Greg & Holly Jaudzems Married 33 years

#### June 29

Doug & Stacy Sayer Married 28 years

## **Children's Council**

 Vacation Bible School - Our theme this year is Outback Rock. VBS will be held <u>June 28 - 30</u>. <u>Click here to register!</u>



- ◆ **Bible Adventures** Kiddos in K-4, after the opening worship music during second service we head down to our room. Anyone interested in helping in any capacity can see Susan Ritchie for more details. It is not your average Children's Church, it's an Adventure!
- Nursery Volunteers Thanks to all who have stepped up to play with and minister to our littlest ones! If you are not yet on the list and would like to be, please see Susan to sign up.

## **Teen Disciples**

 $6^{th}$  -  $12^{th}$  grades - Meets Sundays at Church from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

June 2: Laser Tag 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

June 9: Teen Disciples 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

June 16: No Meeting - Father's Day

June 23: Teen Disciples 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

June 30: Teen Disciples 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Mission Trip Planning Meeting to follow, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

July 6 - 14: Mission Trip to Atlanta, Georgia

## **Prayer Requests**

- Family of Lindsey Lindsey took her own life, leaving behind her husband and new baby
- Family of 5 Kids their father passed away Sunday night and their mom isn't around (Sayer)
- Mary Klunk recovering from a double lung transplant, needs prayers for healing and continued strength
- Will Lampard suffering complications from illness (Kidd)
- **Journee** newborn who is having difficulty breathing
- Grace had a fall and needs surgery
- Alex highschooler having heart arrhythmia
- Tom Pustinger blood clots in his lungs (West)
- Nancy Pustinger leukemia and irregular blood sugar (West)

- Michelle Witherspoon breast cancer (Williams)
- ◆ Kyle melanoma
- Lisa needs a double mastectomy and is in economic distress
- Charles cardiac issues (Davis)
- Ritchie Family their great-grandfather has cancer and their grandfather's cousin has blood cancer
- Noelle struggling with severe emotional problems (Sayer)
- Steve Mayes prostate cancer (Webb)
- Gail Aumend heart issues
- Michelle Shelly receiving treatment for thyroid cancer



# Prayer & Worship Nights

7:00p - 8:00pm in the Sanctuary Every Third Friday: June 21st, July 19th, and August 16th

If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways: then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

#### Ice Cream Socials

Tis the season – for Ice Cream Socials! Be a part of the tradition by donating food items for the menu, helping during the social (see the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall), or joining us for dinner that night. Carry-out is also available. Join us for food, fellowship, and fun. See you there!



Save the Date for our upcoming Ice Cream Socials!

June 20 | July 18 | August 15



# First Aid / CPR Training

A First Aid / CPR training will be held at the church on Saturday, June 15th at 9:00 a.m. It is open to anyone. Please contact the church office for additional information.

# Friendship Table

Don't forget about our Friendship Table on the **second** and **fourth** Sundays each month! Enjoy some coffee, juice or milk, and a donut, etc. during Sunday School or before the worship services. Please keep all food and beverages in the Fellowship Hall or in your Sunday School room (if your teacher is okay with it). **There is a new sign-up sheet available in Fellowship Hall** if you'd like to sign up to provide for the Friendship Table. It is intended to be just a light snack, not a full breakfast, so anyone could do it!



## The Peal

If you do not have access to the internet or email, or simply prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you each month, please contact Brooke Williams, the church office manager at 740-369-5956 or by email at office@bellpointchurch.com.





Please email all articles, pictures, and content for the July Peal to Rachel Kapraly at peal@bellpointchurch.com by **Monday, June 24th**.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

