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Deadline for November's newsletter is October 16. Email to Deerfield@zoomtown.com.

SYNERGY by Pastor Jackie

We have a new buzzword in the West Ohio Conference this year! If you haven't already heard it, you will. This word is not really new, I've used it for a long time to attempt to explain my leadership style as a pastor in God's church, and my whole way of looking at the world in general.

SYNERGY

is the word being used these days to help us explore our connection with each other as members in the church, and also for our connections with other churches as members of the body of Christ.

It is about collaboration and teamwork. It is about prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit and how that works. It is about the sum of the whole being greater than any one part. It is all about not going it alone. It is about using the strength of our connection as United Methodists. It is about letting God show us what we can do together and what God can do with those efforts.

Synergy can multiply all that we do abundantly! It synchronizes our energy to make it better and stronger. Through the Holy Spirit, God is showing us a way to be able to create something for the world that can take all our breaths away! It is the intersection of all our good intentions and the desires of our hearts, being

brought to fruition through the work of our hands, in cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

Having said all this, I want to give my testimony (see Susan's testimony on page 3) about the Synergy Worship Retreat our worship Praise Team just attended. Each of the two days began with a kind of worship experience I never knew existed. They were each powerful events because they connected me with God instantly. The use of modern day metaphor connected the theme with scripture and music. The visual experience was fantastic: video, physical items to look at, sound, and message all carried through together. Many people took part in the carrying out of worship also. There really aren't words enough to be able to describe the connection I felt to God at those times.

We (your worship team) spent two days learning how to be creative this way in worship. We practiced and learned together, prayed together, created together. In short, we are beginning to create synergy with each other and God! It felt good (and exhausting!) and we want to bring this experience to you! We are all willing to schedule additional time together each month to give our best efforts to God in the planning of worship. Deerfield UMC: you are blessed to have such creative volunteer worship

leaders who truly give their best efforts to praise God! I am immensely blessed as your pastor to have them as well.

I don't have a particular scripture verse to lift up this month with regard to synergy. I think that is because Jesus simply is the definition of synergy. When I think about how he led and taught the disciples, and how strong that synergy must have been in that small group of men and women; when I think about the crowds listening to his teachings, seeing how he healed people in body, mind, and spirit; I can feel that spirit energy move within my mind and body. That's how it is when we are attentive to God's movement in our lives. It is what we try to lean into in order to learn and grow in Christ. I also know that it was way too much to understand for some groups and leaders of Jesus' day. It can feel threatening to folks when it is misunderstood, because synergy is very powerful. "See, the whole world is going after him," said the Pharisees and others, as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Watch for ways that you can synergize your gifts with the church's need in the month to come! Great and powerful moments will happen. All you need do is open your heart and look for them!

Deerfield Restart Grant Report



Children's Mission Trip

It is amazing to sense our deepening relationship with folks in our community as we simply reach out in hospitality!

Monthly Community Dinner

On the second Sunday night of each month the church members prepare a free community meal. It was first advertised by a sign on our lawn and at the local food pantry. The first meal had two individuals that attended from the community and 10 church members participated.

For the last several months we have had 25-30 attendees, with 20-25 church members helping. Increased advertisement, word of mouth, growing interest and support are all things that have made this project a success. Community people have started to bring food, attend Sunday morning service and help clean up. Last month we had 6-8 new attendees. It is amazing to sense our deepening relationship with folks in our community as we simply reach out in hospitality! We are learning a lot from each other while living into a truly Christ led work.

****Our tip for another church trying this project is not to give up. Have the dinner each month so that people know they can count on you. Do not let fear (or anything else) paralyze you from being consistent and hospitable each month!**

Children's Mission Work

Our second highlight is for our Children's Faith-forming Relationships, which, in addition to Sunday School, included mission work outside of the church. Deerfield has a 4 year old-2nd grade class and then a 3rd grade to 6th grade class that meets on Sunday morning. Prior to this year we only had a one-room Sunday class that had 6-8 children. With this project our two classes now have 16-18 attendees.

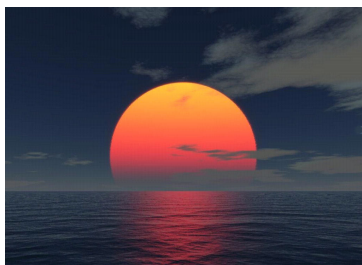
Additionally, the older class has an in-depth Bible study emphasis. The children earn "Bible Bucks" by doing things like completing outside worksheets from a lesson, or memorizing bible verses. When they have earned enough "bucks," they can buy special Christian related items to use. Our 3rd to 6th graders have taken 3 mission trips outside of the church. The first was to the Kings Dialysis Clinic where they met the staff and some clients. Crossword puzzles, Sudoko books, and Word finding books were given to the Clinic to help the clients pass their time with something to do. The children interacted with the patients and learned all about dialysis. The second mission trip was to the Cross Roads Dog Training

site. The children, along with an adult volunteers walked dogs being trained as service dogs. They learned about the program, which helps lower income families affordably obtain a trained dog for a family member. The third mission trip was to a therapeutic Horse Riding facility. This program is designed to help handicapped children and families do something fun, and learn to overcome any fears at the same time. The children worked stuffing envelopes with information for the next riding session for the facility.

These trips helped our children do things for other people. It opened their eyes to challenges others face on a daily basis. Our children are excited about coming to their classes. The younger kids hear about what the older children are doing and are anxiously waiting until it is their time to move up. It is really making a difference in the lives of our children!

****Our tip for another church trying such a project is to include the children in what mission projects they are interested in; promote Bible study and mission work at a young age, and have committed church volunteers and teachers to support the project.**

Intentional Faith Development



Good Morning God!

October 1, 9:30-noon. What a way to start the day—spending one-on-one time with God.

Prayer Group

This group will meet on Thursdays (instead of Tuesday) until November 10th. We would love to have you join us. For information, contact Margie Burke.

Uppity Women in the Bible Women's Study

Study of Esther featuring a DVD series by Hebrew Bible professor Dr. Lisa Wolfe which combines careful scholarship and humor and fresh insights. Sundays Oct. 9 & 23, 9:30 a.m. Childcare will be available.

Bible Study

A bible study class is now held from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. The study is called "Chronological Walk through the Gospels."

Journey Well Class

This class will explore the biblical/faith/science connections of wellness in our lives. Topics include: mind, body, spirit, motivation, and relationships. Come, learn, and be encouraged by others as we explore Jesus' desire for an abundant life for everyone! Sundays: 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 11/20, 9:30 a.m., Pastor Jackie, leader.

Craft/Bible Study Group

This group will focus on needlework/crafts and doing a Bible study. Planning meeting was held on Sept. 28. Time and place discussed. Contact Barb Dixon at 683-0281 for details.

Children's Sunday School

(Age 4 through grade 2)

- Attend worship the first Sunday of the month (September 4)
- Attend Sunday School the remainder of Sundays (September 11, 18, 25). Children are to be dropped off at 10:55 a.m. and picked up immediately following worship.

Children's Bible Study

(Grades 3 – 6):

- Attend worship the first and third Sunday of the month (September 4, September 18)
- Attend Sunday School the second, fourth, fifth Sundays (September 11, September 25). Children are to be dropped off at 10:55 a.m. and picked up immediately following worship.



Register before Oct. 5 to learn about United Methodism.

United Methodism 101 is a free, basic online course designed for new United Methodists and anyone else wanting to know more about the denomination. It is also great for long-time United Methodists who would like to check their basic knowledge of the church. Each of the four modules contains many interactive features and takes about one hour to complete at the participant's convenience.

Check out at <http://www.umcom.org/site>. Put in United Methodist 101 in the Search at the top. Click on United Methodist 101.

Here are some of the questions we heard that prompted this course:

- Why the name "Methodist?" And are they really "United?"
- Who speaks on behalf of The United Methodist Church?
- Who gets to decide the official beliefs for The United Methodist Church?
- Can I disagree with the church on an issue like war or abortion?
- Why is The United Methodist Church involved in political issues?
- How do United Methodists view things like communion and baptism?

The Synergy Retreat was a very moving and exciting experience! I had expected to learn a lot about creative worship design, but I hadn't expected the awesome worship services that the District shared with us. They were very powerful messages about what we are called to do as believers and leaders in the church: share the Good News, and share it in ways that will help people understand how amazing the love and grace of Jesus Christ really is. Meaningful worship is so important in the lives of all Christians, no matter where we are on our journey with God. So we will continue to share His Word as we are called, to the very best of our abilities! Susan Roosen

Risk Taking Missions

Community Dinner: October 9, 6:00-7:30 p.m. The theme will be Fall Comfort Food. For fun, Halloween costumes are welcome!

Bernie's place: Dale & Jody Wik will be serving Saturday night, October 15th. If you would like to join them, they would love to have you.

King's Pantry: Thank you to everyone who helped provide 300+ items during our September Hunger Action month.

Passionate Worship

(Sunday, 11:00 a.m.)



Come to the Fair!

Sunday, October 16 is Laity Sunday. Our worship will lift up the ministries of the church. Come and celebrate at our Ministry Fair! There may be some surprises. Come prepare to learn and have fun!

All Saint's Day

Sunday, October 30th worship will be a time for remembering all of the saints that have joined the Lord over the last year. If you would like to have a family member listed, please submit their name to deerfieldumc@zoomtown.org by October 26th.

Scriptures for October

Oct. 2: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Matthew 22:34-40; Romans 13:8-10

Oct. 9: Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9

Oct. 16: Exodus 33:12-23; Matthew 22:15-22

Oct. 23: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Philippians 3:10-15

Oct. 30: Revelation 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3

October Birthdays

Oct. 15.....Christopher Clark

Oct. 17.....Betsy Etensohn

Oct. 20.....Sheldon Carpenter

Oct. 29.....John Burke

Oct. 31.....Ryan Kenwell & Dale Wik

October Anniversaries

Oct. 1.....Shem & Matthew Lofland

Oct. 21.....Bob & Judy Liedhegner

Oct. 25.....Tom Reed & Julie Dian-Reed

Parsonage Open House

Jackie and David invite you to drop by for a light lunch and friendly conversation. Sunday, October 23rd between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Prayer Concerns

Gordon Denker
Karen Mason
Heather & Elicia Shaughnessy
Kenny Nicols
Don Withers
Glen Turner
Rebecca Hershey
Bella

Greg Kenwell
Kim Weiser
Sue Wilson
Stephanie Penny
Cope Family
James & Julie Cromwell
Eleanor Bardes
Bob Burns



Weddings

- * Susan Caldwell & Ryan Roosen, August 13, Holston Presbytery Camp, Banner Elk, NC. Susan and Ryan would like to take everyone for all your love and support of their marriage. Susan's new email is slroosen13@gmail.com.
- * Lawrence Marshall & Mary Rucker, August 27, Oxford, OH



**Deerfield United
Methodist Church**

Connecting to God, Serving Others

2757 West U.S. 22-3, Maineville, OH 45039
(513) 683-PRAY (7729) Fax: (513) 683-7829

11 AM Worship

Rev. Jackie Marshall, Pastor
Cindy Goodlander, Secretary

Our Mission...Connecting to God, Serving Others

Our Vision...To be a *healthy congregation* who shares God's love, grace and power through:

Radical Hospitality - that is attractive, welcoming, and invitational,
Passionate Worship - where we offer inspirational community praise,
Faith Forming Relationships, Experiences, and Education - where we foster growth and transform into caring, active discipleship, and
Risk Taking Mission and Service - through which we interact with others by modeling Christ-like examples of compassion and service.