

West Point United Methodist Church

M A Y 2 0 1 0

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.”

Acts 2:1






Pentecost is a Greek word meaning fiftieth. For us as Christians, Pentecost has deeper meaning. In the Jewish tradition, Pentecost represents the fifty days after the Sabbath of the Passover week; known also as the Feast of Weeks or the Feast of the Harvest. This is a time to ritually thank God for all God's blessings in prior harvests and to seek God's blessings in the current one. For our Christian tradition, Pentecost has come to mean something even more. Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven after his resurrection, the twelve apostles, Jesus' mother and family and many other disciples were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks and praying indoors when a mighty rush of wind and tongues of what appeared to be flames rested on the heads of each one of them. This was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on human flesh as foretold by the prophet Joel. Thus empowered, the apostles and the disciples went out into the streets of Jerusalem evangelizing and the Jews gathered from all over the world for the Feast of Weeks heard the sermons in their own native languages. The preachers might have been speaking in one language, but the hearers of those sermons were hearing in their native languages. In our Christian tradition, we've come to see Pentecost as the time when the Holy Spirit comes to give birth to the church and empowers us as believers to preach God's Word and to spread the Gospel. According to the scriptures, some three thousand people were baptized that very day and people have been coming to faith in large numbers ever since.

About here would be a good time to do one of those David Letterman bits about the top ten reasons why twenty first century American Christians fail to experience the kind of Pentecost power that those first apostles and disciples experienced. The fact is that we don't tend to evangelize with passion and intensity which is strange since the Good News is still as Good as when Peter walked the earth and the times today are just as dark and menacing as when the Apostles faced Roman oppression surrounded by paganism. So why don't we evangelize with passion and intensity? In search for an answer, I am reminded of a story I recently heard.

Years ago there was a man named Yates who owned a sheep farm in Texas. It is said that timing is everything and this was a bad time to own a sheep ranch anywhere because it was smack in the middle of the Great Depression. He didn't have enough money to continue paying on the mortgage and like many others in that very sad time, he was forced to live on government assistance. Each day, as he tended his sheep, he worried about how he was going to pay his bills and how soon it would be before he would lose his ranch. Then one day, some geologists came to his ranch and asked his permission to make a test drill on his property. You can probably guess what happened. The geologists struck oil; a whole lot of oil. And

Continued on page four

May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Women's bible study</i> 7:00 PM	4 <i>Administrative counsel meeting</i> 7:00 PM	5 <i>Confirmation class</i> 6:00 PM 708	6 <i>Disciple I</i> 7:00 PM 	7	8
9 	10	11 <i>Women's bible study</i> 7:00 PM	12 708 United Methodist Women @ Ted & Carol Stout's 7:00 PM	13 <i>Disciple I</i> 7:00 PM	14	15 <i>West Point car show and West Point UMC flea market</i> 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Parents night out with the Light House
16	17	18 <i>Women's bible study</i> 7:00 PM Pastor Parish emte mtg 7:00 PM	19 Morning bible study group 9:00 AM 708	20 <i>Disciple I</i> 7:00 PM	21	22
23 	24	25 <i>Women's bible study</i> 7:00 PM	26 708	27 <i>Disciple I</i> 7:00 PM	28	29 Light House car wash at the fire station 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
30 	31 					

SERMONS & SCRIPTURE LESSONS

May 2

- 5th Sunday of Easter
- Holy Communion
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Little Beamer's church

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 & Mark 10:46-52. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Flying Upside Down."

May 9

- 6th Sunday of Easter
- Hymn Sing Sunday
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Little Beamer's church

Pastor Jeff will be on vacation this Sunday and the congregation will enjoy a hymn sing at both services.

May 16

- 7th Sunday of Easter
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Little Beamer's church

John 20:19-31 & Psalm 30. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "I'm from Missouri"

May 23

- Pentecost
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Little Beamer's church

Acts 2:1-21 & Genesis 11:1-9. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Pent Up Pentecost."

May 30

- 1st Sunday Pentecost
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM
- Praise & Worship Service 11:00 AM
- Little Beamer's church

Psalm 8 & Genesis 1:1-2. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Is Your God Too Small?"

Prayer Concerns

Connie Burke, Eve Hamilton, Sharon Hughel, Helen Nice, Eric Elming, Bill House, Jim Deckerd, Eileen Savoldi, Harold Bolinger, TCS School Corporation, Krystal West (friend of Robin Leuck), Brent Maxwell, Frosty Richardson, Len Fouts, Thelma Elsberry, Jane Fifer, Kenny Freeland, Stephanie Cart Whitmore, all college and high school graduates.

All our men and women in uniform, particularly Cody Hamilton, John MacIntosh, Rob Gaither, and Jeremy Ritter, especially those serving in harm's way.

The family and friends of Lucille Suit, (Rae Ritchie's Aunt) on her recent passing.
The family and friends of Ellen Martin, (Nancy Allrich's mom) on her recent passing.

May Birthdays Adults

Mandy Bridges	May 8
Delite Ritter	May 17
Karen Vester	May 18
Amy Cheesman	May 19
Linda Kerber	May 21
Bobbi Stout	May 30



FLEA MARKET

BOOTH SPACE AVAILABLE FOR THE WEST POINT CAR SHOW FLEA MARKET AT CADET PARK. 12 X 12 FOOT SPACE AVAILABLE FOR \$20.00. SEE KARLA ROSS, CARE OF WEST POINT UMC, FOR DETAILS.

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Continued from page one

since Mr. Yates owned not just the property but also the mineral rights, he was potentially a very rich man. A multimillionaire in fact. Isn't it interesting that here is this man, living in poverty for years and yet he was sitting right over the stuff that could make him rich and he didn't even know it.

Just like Mr. Yates, sitting on top of mineral wealth that he didn't put there but had the power to make him wealthy, we Christians have this pent up Pentecost power residing inside of us just bursting to get out. It doesn't matter whether our maturity in our faith walk is such that we practically have the bible memorized or whether we are so brand new in the faith and can't find the book of Romans. God can use any one of us, no matter what our circumstances to do anything because we have the wealth of pent up Pentecost power residing inside us. The only question that remains is: “Will we allow God to pull it out of us so that we can use it to make disciples for the transformation of the world?”

Blessings,

Pastor Jeff

How things stand with our new property

On April 11th, we got lots of helpful feedback from the community on what is needed in West Point and how our building plans can help shape that coming reality. Now that the property is paid for and we've accomplished this huge objective, it's easy to become complacent. Friends, this is the time when the hard work begins in earnest. We absolutely must become even more diligent in our prayer lives. Coming in June, look for sign up sheets for round the clock prayer vigils for seeking God's desire for this next step. In the mean time, and once again, blessings and congratulations my friends.



Celebrating the Ministry of Jack and Carolyn Hartman

We have been invited to celebrate 44 years of ministry of our former pastor and his wife by the congregation of High Street United Methodist Church.

Sunday June 6, 2010 at Muncie High Street UMC

Open house 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Celebration in sanctuary 4:00 to 5:00

Sara Ritter is graduating from college! Can you believe it?

Jay & Delite Ritter and Sara's family invite you to come and celebrate Sara's achievement at 4:00 PM on May 15th. The party will be held at Jasmine Gutierrez's house on 700 west just a few miles south of West Point.

2010 Easter Lilies' Thank You

In Memory of all our loved ones

Mark and Darlene Christian

In Memory: Rex Buckner, Lucile Beers and Mark Beers

The Buckner family

In Memory of Luther and Bernice A. Brubaker, Glennna J. and Wayne Van Sickle, J.B. Brubaker, David L. and Eileen Bolinger, Bonnie Karns, and Lee and Ruth Brubaker

J.B. and Nellie Van Sickle and family

In Memory of Orville "Bolliver" Craig, Nicholas L. Craig, S.E. "Cy" and Beatrice Stover, Harry and Sarah Craig, and Del and Flora Byers

Doris Craig and Family

In Memory of Helen Pearson

Larry Pearson

In Loving Memory of Clarence Lawson

Mary Lou Lawson and Children

In Loving Memory of Christina Lawson

Mary Lou Lawson and Children

In Memory of Bob and Mary Bonnet

Jerry and Vicki Harbath

In Memory of Orville and May Harbarth

Jerry and Vicki Harbath

In Memory of Dewey and Mary Ewbank; Earl and Pearl Emerick; Jime Emerick and family

The Emerick Family

In Memory of Ralph and Norma Spoor, Frank and Neva Vester, and Grandparents

Bob and Karen Vester

In Memory of Helen Pearson

Kathleen Barker, Eileen Savaldi, Mary Lou Lawson, Jane Lutgen, Ruth Shedd

In Memory of Kenny Horn, Kelli Horn and Billy Horn; In Memory of Jim and Ruth Sandifur; In Memory of our loved ones passed

The Sandifur family

In Memory of Mike Driver

Long time friend Ted Horn

In Memory of Loren Byers and Iva Medley and Ralph and Blanche Byers

Helena Byers

In Memory of Loretta McClellan

Bob McClellan

GO GREEN SAVE MONEY

We are now able to e-mail the church newsletter to you.

If you would like to receive your copy of the newsletter via e-mail instead of US mail, send an e-mail to us at wpumc@tds.net. Then beginning next month your newsletter will arrive by e-mail. This will save on paper (save a tree) and postage (save a buck) helping to make us good stewards of God's gifts.

May Birthdays

Hunter Meihls	May 8
Lauren Gellenbeck	May 13
Shelby Pritchard	May 17
Kyle Katter	May 18
Justin Ledford	May 18
Ellen Craig	May 20
Logan Burke	May 27

If we missed anybody, please accept our apologies and let Pastor Jeff know so we can update our records!

Hey Light House;

This month Lighthouse will be having two more fundraisers for our mission trip to Alabama!

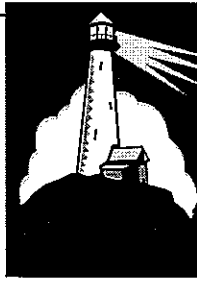
May 15th- Parent's Night Out. Times to be announced.

May 29th- Car wash Times to be announced.

Be ready to help out with both of these fundraisers. Our last "Parent's Night Out" was a big success. So let's work hard to make sure this one is too. Be prepared to play games and serve snacks to the kids.

708:

This month we will continue our lesson on David and Saul. We will also learn about the wisdom of Abigail and see that even the people closest to God can fall short of the kingdom of Heaven. May 12th will be our "chill day" at 708. So come join us for some food, fellowship, and fun.



Little Beamers!!!!!!

Little Beamers will not meet in May because we are busily getting ready for and counting down the days to Vacation Bible School. This year it will be from June 14 through June 18 and we are looking forward to seeing you there. Bring your friends!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our next confirmation class is set for Wednesday May 6th at 6:00 just prior to 708.

This month we will attend a Roman Catholic Mass and attend a large church service. Times and events to be announced.

Blessings,

Pastor Jeff



B I B L E S T U D I E S

Vacation Bible School Is Coming!

Remember to mark your calendars for VBS! This summer's dates are June 14 through June 18 with our wrap up program on Friday evening, June 18 at 7:00 PM. There are lots of ways you can help your church get ready for the onslaught of kids that will be coming to VBS this summer. Costs per child run between \$20.00 and \$30.00, so would you like to sponsor a child or two with a generous donation? We won't turn you down. Would you like to sign up as a teacher or helper? We wouldn't turn you down for that either. What we need most are things of a "NAUTICAL ARTICLES FOR DECORATING OUR VBS IN JUNE. SOME THINGS SUGGESTED WERE NETS, SHIP WHEELS, LIFE PRESERVER RINGS. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT WOULD ENHANCE OUR DECORATING THEME. Thanks for helping us make this happen!

The life transformational experience that is the Disciple I Bible study rounds third and heads for home this month. We close out the adventure by plumbing the mysteries of the Book of Revelation.

Women's Bible Studies

Come Join Us

Having wrapped up the Beth Moore bible study on Esther, the women's bible study group will begin a new study on "Discerning the Voice of God" by Pricilla Shire. Ms' Shire is a gifted and talented teacher and bible scholar but she also happens to be the daughter of Dr. Tony Evans whom many of you know from your time spent with Moody radio. Come join the ladies as they continue to experience God.

Our Vision Statement

We envision the West Point United Methodist Church to be the focal point of our community and to be a welcoming church reaching out to everyone; offering all the opportunity to know and serve God; providing fellowship; offering spiritual leadership; and teaching the Word of God.

**For more information about West Point UMC, contact us at 765-572-2256, or
wpumc@tds.net or check out our webpage at
www.westpointunitedmethodist.org**

Sunday School:	8:30 AM
Traditional Worship	9:30 AM
Praise & Worship	11:00 AM

West Point UMC
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