



West Point UMC

F E B U R A Y 2 0 1 1

“See, I have you engraved on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.”
Isaiah 49:16

The following appeared in the February 2005 newsletter and I reprint it here this month. Am I doing this because I am lazy? Am I reprinting this because I am stuck for a new idea? I hope not on the first and maybe a little on the second. The biggest reason, however, is that the letter that appeared in February of 2005 is one of my favorites and though much has changed since then, the thoughts embodied have not. In fact, they’ve grown even stronger. Enjoy.

You Complete Me




In the movie *Jerry McGuire*, Tom Cruise plays a high profile sports agent who in a moment of epiphany sees the crass cynicism of his profession and proposes a better way to do things. The move has disastrous consequences for his career. I won’t spoil it for those of you that may not have seen the movie, but I will say that things turn out well for our hero in the end because he does the right thing. This does, however, set up what is in my opinion one of the best lines in the history of Hollywood. Jerry McGuire finds himself in a new relationship — one that he didn’t expect to have or didn’t see coming — and he is struggling with it. When he finally realizes how profoundly in love he is with the object of his affection, he says to her “You complete me.”

I have yet to speak to a woman who has seen this movie that didn’t fall a little bit in love with Tom Cruise when he uttered that line or at least with the magic of that moment. Perhaps art does imitate life. I’ve officiated at far too many funerals where one long term spouse of decades has been left behind while the other has gone to be with the Lord. I’ve also had the privilege of joining dozens of couples in Holy matrimony. In both of those sets of circumstances, I’ve seen the essence of Jerry McGuire’s words spring to real life. Standing at the altar watching some loving couple gaze into each other’s eyes as they prepare to exchange their wedding vows almost shouts out loud: “You complete me.” The tenderness with which one long term spouse lays their life partner to rest has spoken to me even more eloquently: “you’ve completed me.”

On Valentine’s Day, I will doubtless tell my wife that I love her and express that love with flowers or a card or some other object just like I have done the last eighteen years. What I am not sure about is whether or not I’ve done a good enough job telling her every single day how much I appreciate her and how much she means to me. There is not a doubt in my mind that my five children know how much I love them. What I am not sure about is whether or not

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February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 Trustees mtg 6:00 PM</p> <p>Administrative Council mtg 7:00 PM</p>	<p>2 Morning bible study 9:00 AM</p> <p>Little Beamers 4:30—6:00 PM</p> <p>708</p>	<p>3 Prayer Coach bible Study 7:00 PM</p>	4	5
6	7	<p>8 Women's bible study 7:00 PM</p>	<p>9 Morning bible study 9:00 AM</p> <p>United Methodist Women 7:00 PM</p> <p>708</p>	<p>10 Prayer Coach bible Study 7:00 PM</p>	11	<p>12</p>  <p>Lincoln's Birthday</p>
<p>13 Light House Sweetheart dinner Noon</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15 Women's bible study 7:00 PM</p>	<p>16 Morning bible study 9:00 AM</p> <p>Little Beamers 4:30—6:00 PM</p> <p>708</p>	<p>17 Serving @ At- tica UMC 4:00—7:30 PM</p>	18	19
20	<p>21</p> 	<p>22 Women's bible study 7:00 PM</p>	<p>23 Morning bible study 9:00 AM</p> <p>708</p>	<p>24 Prayer Coach bible Study 7:00 PM</p>	25	26
<p>27 Cluster Group meeting @ Stidham UMC 2:00 PM</p>	28					

SERMONS & SCRIPTURE
LESSONS

February 6

- 5th Sunday of Epiphany
- Holy Communion
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Malachi 1:1-5 & Psalm 112:1-10. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "The Dross and the Flame."

February 13

- 6th Sunday of Epiphany
- Sunday School 8:30 AM
- Traditional Worship 9:30 AM

Joshua 24:14-17 & 1st Corinthians 3:1-9. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "You Gotta Serve Somebody."

February 20

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

Habakkuk 1:2-4 & Habakkuk 3:2. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "Strength Will Rise."

February 27

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

Matthew 6:24-34 & Psalm 131. Pastor Jeff's sermon will be "What, Me Worry?"

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

NELLIE VAN SICKLE

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| | FEB. 1 |
| TED STOUT | FEB. 3 |
| VICKIE HARBETH | FEB. 9 |
| TIM EMERICK | FEB. 12 |
| GRACE CRAIG | FEB. 15 |
| JERRY STEWART | FEB. 15 |
| TRICIA TAYLOR | FEB. 21 |
| CORY TEMPLE | FEB. 26 |



Prayer Concerns

Gary Harbolt, Ava Bryan, Nora Lamb, Ray Record, Ted Stout, Jim Hale, Dexter Andrews, Linda Harold, Helen Van Hook, Aubry Deno, Heather and Jenny Baumgartner (missionaries going to Uganda), Luke Ferrell with a family member on life support, Bailey Keller — a little girl facing life sustaining surgery, the wife of Kerry Matthews, Sarah Elizabeth Barr, a premature newborn and her parents Chuck and Christie, Congresswoman Gabriel Giffords and those who were injured or lost their lives in the Arizona shooting.

The family and friends of Darlene Clark (Niece of Thelma Smith) on her recent passing

The family and friends of Helen Nice (Mark Christian's mother) on her recent passing

The family and friends of Charlene, and infant who recently passed away.

The family and friends of Adison Ferrell n her recent passing.

The family and friends of Charlotte Jean and Wanda Burton on their recent passings.

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

The Tax Man Cometh

It's that time of year again. You know, that time usually after the Super Bowl and before April 15th, where we Americans diligently get ready to settle up with the tax man. Darlene Christian would like you to know that your giving records will be cheerfully forwarded to you if you but ask for them. However, if we don't hear from you, we will assume you don't want them. You can contact Darlene at dcmc2@tds.net, or at 572-2719.

Bible Verse of the Month

Joshua 24:15

Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, ...
As for me and my house, we shall serve the Lord.



Women's Bible Studies

Come Join Us

Our adventure continues in our Beth Moore bible study as we explore the life and ministry of "the disciple Jesus loved." That would be John. As Beth herself says: "Every disciple and early follower of Christ left a legacy for future believers. John's legacy was love. Perhaps like no other disciple, John understood that relationship is the point. Every command of Christ and call to obedience is to enhance relationship and place the recipient in a posture the giver can bless. This study is about finding our way to the heart of Jesus and reclining so closely that our pulse begins to throb in tandem, loving what He loves, hating what He hates."

It's not too late to join us and we would love to have you come along for the ride. Please contact Delite Ritter or Ronda Smith for details.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Reboots for 2011

We are very excited about our new bible study. We are studying Pastor Rick Warren's new effort on "Understanding the Six Phases of Faith. There are now seventeen of us exploring and growing together. It's not too late for you to join us on this God sized adventure.

How things stand with our new property



We continue to wait patiently on God. That's how things stand with our new property. As noted last month, God seems to be telling us that we need to become more fully connected with our neighbors — not the one's who already go to church here, but those who live and work next to us. They need to know us and we need to get to know them. However, we need to be very careful about confusing the very biblical approach of waiting patiently for God with the very human tendency to use God as an excuse to not stretch, to not grow, to not do the sometimes uncomfortable things that God will demand of us if we are to follow Him. Stay alert! God is working mightily in our lives.

Blessings, Pastor Jeff

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

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they know how much I wish I could go back to when they were little so that I could play with them or hold them a degree or two more and criticize them a degree or two less. Which brings me to you my beloved congregation and my dear friends. I believe that God had each and every one of you in mind when he began tugging at my heart some fifteen years ago. You are the reason I am here. Each and everyone of you is the reason that God called me into ministry. In that sense, you complete me. So if there were ever a time when my busyness made you feel that you weren't important to me, please forgive me. I am never too busy for a word or two of conversation with one of those who complete me. I am never too busy for a quick cup of coffee or for a sincere response to one of my "how ya doin'" greetings.

So many of you have made it crystal clear how glad you are that I am your pastor and how pleased you are with all that we are accomplishing together here. For that I am grateful. What I am not sure about is whether or not you know how proud I am of all of you and how honored I am to be your pastor.

Happy Valentine's Day and, as always, many blessings.

Pastor Jeff

Show and Tell

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object to share with the class that represented their religion. The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David.." The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a Rosary." The third student got in up front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Methodist, and this is a casserole."

February Birthdays

Ashley Anthrop	Feb. 3
Mitchell Byers	Feb. 3
Peter Craig	Feb. 8
Kim Francis	Feb. 9
Trent Green	Feb. 17
Katlyn Smelcer	Feb. 22



Hey Light House;

With the first month of 2011 behind us, we have many exciting things ahead! For the month of February, we will continue to explore the bible:

February 2: This will be our free day but we will talk briefly about what we would like to accomplish in the coming year.

February 9: We will begin a bible study based on the movie "To Save a Life." This is an invitation to be really open about what is truly important in life.

February 13: On this Valentine's Day Sunday, we will offer up our annual Sweetheart dinner for the congregation. Details will be discussed in 708. Tune in for details

February 16 & 20: Our bible

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

Little Beamers!!!

We start a new adventure this month and we are really excited about it. This month, we will start meeting on the first and third Wednesday of every month. So, we will see you on February 2nd and 16th. As always, we would welcome anyone who feels God tugging on their heart to serve in this vital ministry to our community. If you are one of those folks, please see Pam Katter or Pastor Jeff



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

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