



NBUMC NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009



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The View From Here

by Pastor Pam

As millions of Americans continue to struggle through a sluggish economy, it's pretty clear that a lot of us these days are thinking about treasure. Or, as we most commonly think of it, money. How to get it, how to stretch it, how to save it, and how to spend it. Hard times have a way of capturing our attention in a focused way. We get attached to our treasure. We get nervous when we think we might lose our treasure. And in times like these, we realize that treasure is not just money. It's a job. It's a pension. It's health insurance. It's security. And it's so much more that we don't even think about.

Think about the last time someone hurt you or made you angry. Maybe it was something they did or something they said. Or maybe it was something they failed to do. Think about the people you find it so hard to forgive, the episodes in your life that you consider unforgiveable. Chances are that behind the hurt or anger or unforgiveness lies the thought that that person who hurt you had stolen some of your treasure. Frederica Mathewes-Green in her little book, *The Illumined Heart*, is the one who first opened my eyes to this truth. And when I first read her words, I instantly knew it to be true in my life. When I am hurt, I don't have to look very far to see that behind the hurt is very likely the fear that someone has stolen some of my treasure. And amazingly enough, it's never money. Jesus said, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." It could be money, but it could be status or position or reputation or financial security or any number of things.

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The cure for the hurts that we sustain in life is the knowledge that, as Mathewes-Green says, "ultimately, no one can hurt us. We have nothing to lose, because all our treasure is in Christ." She admits that it will probably take us a lifetime to internalize that lesson and live it from the heart, but it is a truth worth learning. "Our real treasure is elsewhere; it is secure where no one can hurt it."

May each day bring you greater and greater clarity about where your real treasure lies and may you experience the freedom that comes with the knowledge that no one can take it from you.



Greeters

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| July 5 | <i>John & Carol Ruth</i> |
| July 12 | <i>George & Terry Mason</i> |
| July 19 | <i>Dave & Pat Lewis</i> |
| July 26 | <i>Steve & Brenda Lehr</i> |
| August 2 | <i>Don & Lavada Knight</i> |

Liturgists

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| July 5 | <i>George Mason</i> |
| July 12 & 19 | <i>Larry Buck</i> |
| July 26 & August 2 | <i>Michael Witte</i> |

Lawn Mowing

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| July 5 | <i>John Norbeck</i> |
| July 12 | <i>Joe Jackson</i> |
| July 19 | <i>John Ruth</i> |
| July 21 | <i>Larry Davis</i> |
| August 2 | <i>Jerry Bequette</i> |



Food Pantry Needs

The community of New Baden has done a wonderful job of helping stock our food pantry, mostly with canned vegetables, meat, and boxed mixes, but there are some items we could still use. We have several jars of peanut butter, but very few jars of jelly. We also have a need for sloppy joe mix, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce and Miracle Whip. Please think of us the next time you are shopping for groceries.

Please help us also to maintain an orderly pantry by not using it as a dumping ground for trash and items that belong elsewhere.

Plant Four Rows

Plant four rows of peas.

Prayer
Pentience
Patience
Preparation

Plant four rows of squash.

Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash criticism
Squash negative thinking

Plant four rows of turnips.

Turn up for Church
Turn up whenever needed
Turn up with a friendly smile
Turn up with determination to be a better person

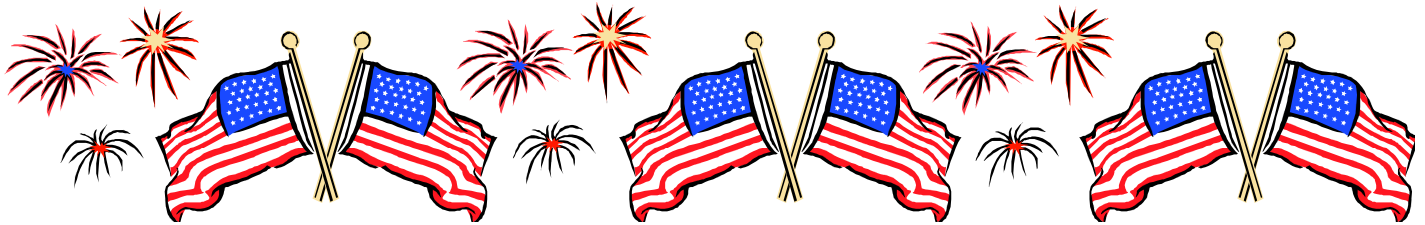
Plant four rows of lettuce.

Let us soar to new heights
Let us come together in harmony
Let us share God's love, and
Let us practice forgiveness

Enjoy the harvest!

Submitted by Rev. L.C. Pruchner





JULY READING

Going Astray in the USA

Many things in this old world
Are so corrupt today
With prisons overflowing
And children gone astray.

The word of GOD is quite taboo
It brings our country shame
To seek Him in a public place
We dare not speak His name.

He won't be found in classrooms
It would be found, a sin
To let our small ones gather round
And offer praise to Him.

They've taken God from every book
And from our government
The laws that made our country strong
Are crooked, vile and bent.

I only pray, it's not too late
To turn it all around
Etch the Bible in the hearts
Of everyone in town.

For if we wait and tarry on
And go about our way
God will finally shout "enough"
The trumpet then will play.

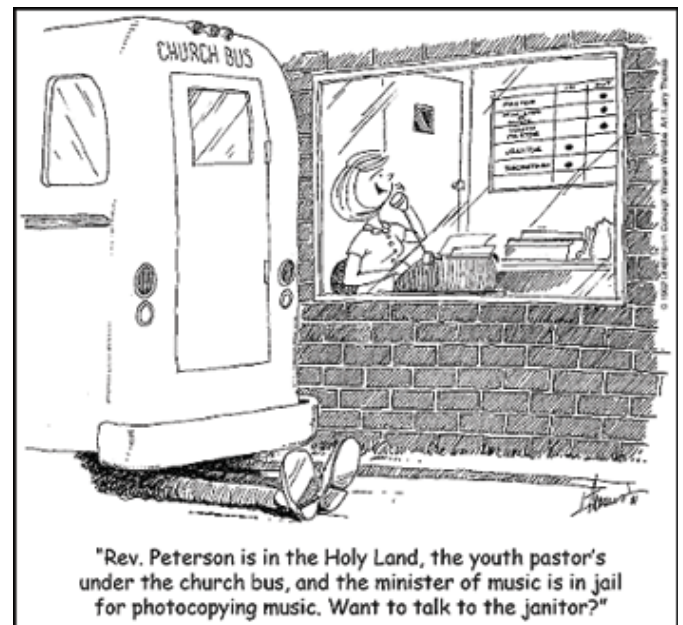
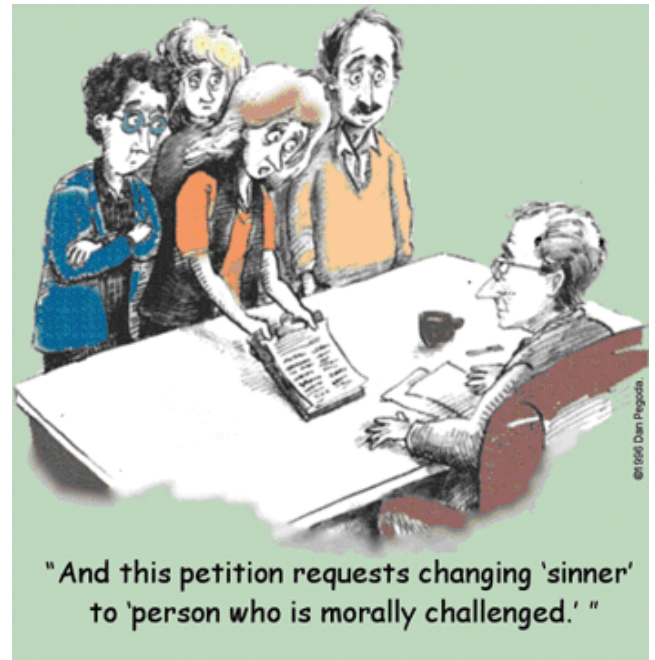
We will not find sweet mercy
When we look to Him for grace
We will not see contentment
When we gaze upon His face.

We'll know His wrath and fury
With our backs against the wall
He'll say, "I never knew you."
The curtain then will fall.

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www.promiseofgod.com/astrayusa

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Calendar & Events

July 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| | | | | | | |

| | |
|---------|--|
| July 5 | 8:00 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Youth Group |
| July 7 | 7:00 pm Trustees |
| July 8 | 7:00 pm Finance Committee |
| July 11 | 6:30-10:00 am Pancake Breakfast |
| July 12 | 8:00 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Youth Group |
| July 14 | 7:00 pm Ad Council |
| July 19 | 8:00 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Youth Group |
| July 20 | 6:00 pm UMM (at the church) |
| July 23 | 6:30 pm UMM Subdistrict Meeting (at the church) |
| July 26 | 8:00 am Praise Team 7:00 pm Youth Group |
| July 28 | 7:00 pm Worship Committee NO UMW MEETING THIS MONTH |

July Birthdays

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 10 th | Dave Lewis |
| 12 th | Mya Thaler |
| 15 th | Dale Fischer |
| 29 th | Denise Thole |

July Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| 8 th | Jason & Gabrielle Rulo |
| 13 th | Michael & Joan Witte |
| 21 st | William & Patricia Malina |
| 27 th | Paul & Doris Pratt |

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