

Circuit *Writer*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | ERLANGER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH |
JUNE 2018

Our Shepherd

A Pastor Appreciation Poem Adapted from Psalm 23 by Daniel Sherman

The Lord gave us a shepherd; we're no longer in want.

He helps us find God's green pastures; He leads us along still waters,
And he is used by God to restore our souls.

He guides us by straight pathways, Bringing honor to God's name.

When we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we are not afraid
because he walks with us.

His teaching and correction comfort and strengthen us. He helps us stand
strong in the face of evil.

He is the oil of healing and health in our souls. Through him God has
overflowed our lives with blessing.

Goodness and mercy are sure to follow us all our days, and we are secure in
eternal life because the Lord gave us a shepherd.

The Erlanger United Methodist has been blessed with many Great Shepherds. We are
grateful for our heritage and hopeful for our future, as we carry out God's Work in
Erlanger, Kentucky, and the World.

Parson to Person

Learn to be gracious

By
Mark
Shepherd
Southgate
United
Methodist



For many years I have heard on occasion the short prayer, "O Lord, help my words to be gracious and tender today for tomorrow I may have to eat them."

Many, many times I have found myself wishing I had been a little more fervent in that prayer. Just this winter I tried to call my fiancée at work, only to discover she had not arrived yet. It was late in the morning and the roads were icy, so I became concerned.

Wanting to make sure she wasn't stuck beside the road, I called her at home. When she answered, I immediately blurted out, "Why aren't you at work yet?" Needless to say, it was not warmly received. Instead of conveying a sense of relief that she was safe, I was shaming her for not taking care of her responsibilities, which in this instance, was her employer's role, not mine.

Words can be tricky things. As a speech major in college, I learned that most of our communication is done through our attitude, not our words. But by the same token, the words we use convey our attitudes,

sometimes more accurately than we care to think.

Many prejudices are revealed through our words (remember Archie Bunker!), as are many emotional scars. Someone who is always critical is usually someone who has been hurt very deeply. The words we use will tell a lot about us.

The tragedy of communication is that once things are said, they are hard to take back. Time will not allow us to erase them, and if the words pierce too deeply, we can destroy a very positive relationship. That's why it's so important for our words to "be gracious and tender," today and every day.

That doesn't mean we can't say critical things, or that we can't make strong statements, it just means they must be tempered with grace and a little compassion.

It happens too often, in the heat of the moment, or in the heat of a conviction or belief, we make strong statements that hurt those around us. It happens in friendships, in families, in the work place, and even in the church.

We read regularly about issues such as abortion, homosexuality, dying with dignity, prayer in schools and mangers in Eden Park or menorahs on Fountain Square. All of these are very emotional issues, and important ones, but too often we get so caught up in the issue that we forget about the people who make

the issues pertinent.

We forget about the young girl who is confused, unemployed and put out of her home because she made a mistake. We forget about the man dying with AIDS, or the children for whom we think we are so concerned.

If we would take a little time to reflect on our words, and our attitudes, perhaps a lot of the controversy of the issues (whatever they are and wherever they occur) would be eliminated. People on both sides of the issue need to take time to remember that compassion for human life (whether it's a mother or a baby) is more important than "my side winning."

The terrible hatred that is shown in many issues facing our world today is evidence that too many of us have gotten caught up in "I'm gonna win or else," and forgotten the compassion that stirred us to action in the first place. We forget that compassion always listens.

Yes, even Jesus used strong language and harsh words on occasion. And yes, there are times when it is appropriate to do so. But can we give ourselves license to say anything at any time? And does our demeanor in all areas of life reflect the grace and love that Christ showed to even the worst of sinners?

The shortest gospel account of the birth of Christ comes in one verse in the book of John, but in many ways it is the most powerful. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth." In this new year, may we all have attitudes of grace.

Noteworthy

BROOKE KAITLIN ALEXANDER

Broke is the daughter of Don and Karen Alexander is a May, 2018, graduate of Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Care.

After graduating from Boone County High School, Brooke entered the Nursing Program at NKU in the Fall term, 2013. She soon found her passion in Respiratory Care and has since beautifully dedicated her time and efforts toward that field. Brooke was on the Dean's List almost every semester during her college experience. In addition, she was part of a quick-recall team that went to the National Competition of those in the Respiratory Profession, held

in October, 2017, in Indianapolis, IN. (This is a national conference that provides lecture speakers and the latest innovations and methods used in respiratory care. "It's a great way to stay on top of your skills", Brooke says.)

In addition to her academic success, Brooke served as Vice President of the Respiratory Care Club in 2016-2017, taking the initiative to help reinstate the Club on the Northern campus as a way of improving the respiratory program as well as providing a way for the Club's members to work together. Brooke then served as President of the Respiratory Care Club in 2017-2018. One of her responsibilities in that position was to organize volunteer opportunities for the students to reach out to others in the community. Because of Brooke's outstanding leadership abilities, she was presented the Leadership Award by the Program Director of Respiratory Care at her Pinning Ceremony recently.

Brooke worked the entire time she was in college. She currently works two jobs, one as receptionist at Sweet Serenity Massage & Salt Therapy, and the other as an outbound marketing agent at Healthwarehouse.com.

Brooke's future plans include relocation to Charleston, South Carolina, where she will pursue her Respiratory Therapy passion. She hopes to work in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and efforts are currently underway to find suitable employment. She also wishes to concentrate her efforts toward finding a cure for Cystic Fibrosis. Toward that end, she will be volunteering at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Charleston and working toward becoming a board member of that organization.

When asked if there was anything Brooke wanted to share with her church family, she responded, "I feel truly blessed to have been a member of this church for most of my life! I was baptized here, went to school at Grace Edgett and have loved coming back to church whenever my time allows. I love this church and all of its members. Thank you for being such blessings in my life. I also want to thank my parents – you all have helped me reach my dreams, and I cannot thank you enough. Thank you for shaping me into the woman that I am today! I love you both!"



RICHARD ZECHARIAH SHEPHERD

Zech, the son of Pastor Mark and Sande Shepherd, is an August, 2016, graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, with a Homeland Security degree plus a Certificate in Intelligence Studies.

Zech attended Seneca High School in Louisville, KY for three years and graduated from Dixie Heights High School, Crestview Hills, KY. He entered the Homeland Security program at EKU during the Fall term, 2011. During the ensuing years, Zech participated in the Homeland Security and Asset Protection Leaders of Tomorrow Association and was chosen to speak at the Homeland Security Research Showcase.

During his Sophomore year at EKU, Zech joined the U. S. Navy. He attended "Boot Camp" in December, 2013, at Great Lakes Naval Station, Chicago, IL. Zech also attended training schools including "A" School in February, 2014, and "C" School in April, 2014, both at the Navy & Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center in Dam Neck, VA. He then returned to EKU for two more years while serving in the Naval Reserves.

During his last semester at EKU, Zech was sent to England, stationed at the Royal Air Force Base, on active duty deployment for a year. While there, Zech completed his class requirements from EKU. Also, during this time, Zech provided political-military analysis in West Africa to the General Commander of US Africa Command (AFRICOM).

Zech then served on active duty deployment in Cuba in 2016-2017. While there, he provided intelligence analysis to USSOUTHCOM and Joint Task Force GTMO. He held two positions in Cuba, one as a Pattern-of-Life Analyst in the Warning and Fusion Cell and the other as a Watch Floor Supervisor in the Technical Exploitation Cell.

During his tenure with the Navy, Zech has been awarded the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, the Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, the Military Outstanding

Volunteer Service Medal, the Rifle Marksman Ribbon, the Pistol Expert Marksman Medal, the Overseas Device Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal and has received Information Dominance Warfare Qualification!!

Zech is currently living in Washington, D.C., working as a civilian for the United States Government in Counter Terrorism. He also is serving in the Naval Reserves.

Zech plans to start his graduate degree this Fall. He will be getting an MBA in a Washington, DC university.



**May 20, 2018
Graduate Recognition &
Pentecost Sunday**



May's Tithes and Offering

Budget Income

Tithes Offering	\$15,784.00
Sunday School	\$50.25
Loose Plate	\$286.59
GECDG	\$10,000.00
Grand Total	\$26,120.84

Special Giving

Emmaus - Emergency	\$37.00
Emmaus - Special Offering	\$61.00
Emmaus - Zimmerman	\$82.00
Combs	\$125.00
Good Samaritan	\$18.00
Ida Spence - Pastor's Cake	\$133.00
Memorial	\$25.00
Methodist Men	\$20.00
Mission	\$75.00
Reimbursements	\$234.00
Special Sunday Offering	\$2.00
UMM Food Drive	\$50.00
Women In Mission	\$327.00
Total Special	\$1,189.00
Grand Total	\$27,309.84

**GOD TOOK THE STRENGTH OF A MOUNTAIN,
THE MAJESTY OF A TREE,
THE WARMTH OF A SUMMER SUN,
THE CALM OF A QUIET SEA,
THE GENEROUS SOUL OF NATURE,
THE COMFORTING ARM OF NIGHT,
THE WISDOM OF THE AGES,
THE POWER OF THE EAGLES FLIGHT,
THE JOY OF A MORNING IN SPRING,
THE FAITH OF A MUSTARD SEED,
THE PATIENCE OF ETERNITY,
THE DEPTH OF A FAMILY NEED,
THEN GOD COMBINED THESE QUALITIES,
AND THEN THERE WAS NOTHING MORE TO ADD,
HE KNEW HIS MASTERPIECE WAS COMPLETE,
AND SO, HE CALLED IT—DAD.**

Happy Father's Day!



WOMEN IN MISSION

We wish to salute our pastor and wife- Rev. Mark and Sande Shepherd for their years of service here at Erlanger United Methodist Church. We appreciate their guidance, leadership, friendship, understanding and caring concerns for our congregation.

We pray God will bless them and their families as they continue their journey through this next phase of their lives.

With gratitude and Love, Women in Mission

We will be welcoming our new pastor and wife - Rev. Andrew and Arpita Singh later this month. We will make ourselves available and willing to help them adjust to a new home and church family.

We trust God to guide us through each step of this transition.

Welcome, Women In Mission

Our next meeting is June 7th at 11:00 am in the church parlor.

We will continue collecting Box Top's for Education and Entenmann's Little Bites empty pouches (in zip lock bags). Place in marked containers in mission drawer #1. These items support fundraising efforts of Red Bird Mission and Henderson Settlement.



Our stuffed bear project is underway. We are making them for the Christmas Child Boxes and possibly some local children's needs.

Looking ahead to July - We will be collecting school supplies for the Ida Spence Mission Children. We hope to fill the 34 backpacks we already have on hand.

Purpose: Women In Mission shall function as an organized ministry of Erlanger United Methodist Church women. Our purpose is to share God's love through cooperative efforts that lend support to local, state, and global missions.

CAR SHOW



\$10 ENTRY FEE

**DASH PLAQUES
FOR FIRST 50
REGISTRATIONS**

**Concessions
provided by
EUMC Youth**

DJ - Ray Dowers

**Split-The-Pot
Raffles**

Door Prizes

TROPHIES:
Best in Show
Best New Car
Best Muscle Car
Best Ford
Best Chevy
Best MOPAR
MM Choice
Youth's Choice

Erlanger UMC 3rd Annual CAR SHOW and CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Presented by

EUMC Methodist Men

SATURDAY AUGUST 25 - 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

Registration 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Rain or Shine

CONTACT

**Don Alexander at 859-803-8431
for more information.**



**Erlanger United Methodist Church
31 Commonwealth Ave.
Erlanger, KY 859-727-2136**

EUMC CAR SHOW **and CANNED FOOD DRIVE**

SATURDAY AUGUST 25 - 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

ERLANGER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
31 Commonwealth Ave. Erlanger, KY 41018
859-727-2136

Registration 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Rain or Shine

DASH PLAQUES FOR FIRST 50 REGISTRATIONS

Concessions provided by EUMC Youth • DJ - Ray Dowers
Split-The-Pot Raffles • Door Prizes

TROPHIES: Best In Show • Best New Car • Best Muscle Car • Best Ford
• Best Chevy • Best MOPAR • Methodist Men's Choice • Youth's Choice

CONTACT

Don Alexander at 859-803-8431 for more information



Erlanger United Methodist Church • 31 Commonwealth Ave. Erlanger, KY
859-727-2136 • erlangerumc.org

TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

As your Lay Leader, I was asked by Staff Parish Committee to coordinate the transition of ministers from Rev. Mark Shepherd whose last Sunday with us will be on June 17, to Rev. Andrew Singh, whose first Sunday with us will be in June 24. A Transition Team composed of volunteers, as well as members from the Worship Committee is working diligently to assure this transition follows protocol with our newly appointed minister building upon the ministry Pastor Mark leaves behind.

The purpose of this communication is to inform you of how this transition process will unfold. Please remain diligent in prayer as plans move forward that ALL of us will continue to build upon the foundation that is Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Sande has asked the celebration on June 17 not include a reception for Rev. Mark because of health concerns. Respecting her wishes we are planning a "Service of Celebration" that will show appreciation and love for the eight years Rev. Shepherd has served the EUMC family.

Tuesday, June 19, is the target date of the arrival of Rev. Andrew Singh and his wife Arpita. We are asking that everyone allow them to settle into their new environment over those next few weeks. We have put in place opportunities as individuals and a congregation to welcome them to EUMC.

On June 24 at our 10:30 worship service Rev. Singh will assume his position as our pastor. The "Welcoming Service" will incorporate Children, Youth and Adults to take active roles in the service, and Rev. Singh will deliver his opening message. Name tags will be available at the entrances to the sanctuary; we ask you to please use them for the first few Sundays.

The Singhs are coming at a busy time in the life of our church. June 24 is the UMM Ice Cream Social, followed by Vacation Bible School that week, Communion Sunday on July 1, and the Church Picnic at Erlanger's Railroad Park.

The Church Picnic will follow the July 1st Morning Worship, and we are asking everyone to join us for a Covered Dish Outing. Our sponsors, The Adult Ministry and Women In Mission will provide Chicken and Drinks for this event. This has been designated as our official "Meet and Greet" for the Singhs.

Finally, to offer the opportunity to socialize on a more personal level, members of our church have offered to open up their homes one night during the month of July, and will be inviting members of the congregation to gather to socialize with the Singhs. Please consider being a part of this official welcome when the invitation is made either through the church bulletin or a phone call.

In closing, I want to thank all the members of the Transition Team and Worship Committee, who have and will continue to give of their energy and time to this endeavor to move our church forward as we bid farewell to Mark and Sande and welcome Andrew and Arpita into our fellowship. Truly a labor of love, in the spirit of grace, and a bonding in the blessing of Jesus Christ.

Blessings and Grace, Bill Howard

June Birthdays

Anna Love	06/01
Brad Pope	06/02
Bill Howard	06/08
L. Eugene Cantrall	06/11
Charley Love	06/11
Joy Hamilton	06/12
Jim Muegel	06/12
Barbara Wilson	06/13
Pat Barbour	06/15
Sande Shepherd	06/20
Charles Kiefer	06/23
Patricia Brown	06/25
Kermit Ballmer	06/28
Woody Robinson	06/29

June Anniversaries

Todd & Kelly Lusk	06/17
Henry & Mimi Evans	06/16
Bill & Cindy Slaven	06/23
Ron & Barb Burgan	06/28



ART FUNDRaiser

Saturday June 9th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall downstairs
Light lunch served afterward
Cost of \$25 per person includes:

1. Blank Canvas for your masterpiece
2. Painting supplies
3. Class instructor chock full of ideas
4. A \$10 donation to the Missions of the Church
5. A few hours of FUN and Fellowship
6. Refreshments and a light lunch

To sign up for this Event Contact Jackie McPeters at 859-307-9391 or Suzanna in the Church Office at 859-727-2136 (each will have a sign-up sheet for you to sign and be able to accept your \$25 fee) This event will be open to all Church Members of all ages, and anyone else interested. If you sign up early, reminders will go out closer to the date.

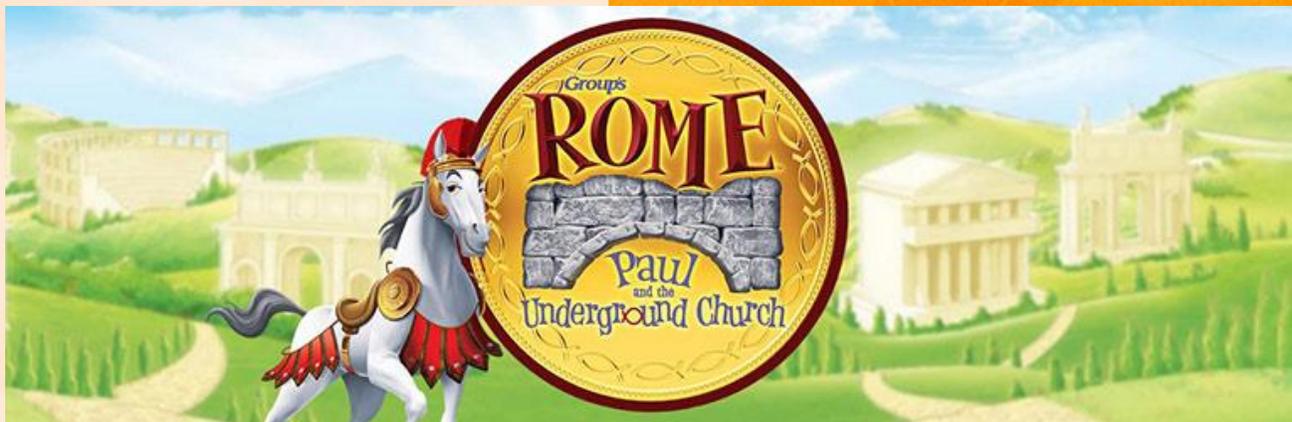
June Events			
Sat	2 nd	8:15 am	UMM Devotions
		9:00 am	UMM Meeting
Sun	3 rd	9:00 am	Communion / Chapel
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Worship
		5:30 pm	Youth / Young Adult
Mon	4 th	7:00 pm	SPRC
Tue	5 th	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	6 th	12:00 pm	Caring Team
		7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thur	7 th	11:00 am	WIM
Sat	9 th	10:00 am	ART Fundraiser
Sun	10 th	9:00 am	Communion / Chapel
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Worship
		5:30 pm	Youth / Young Adult
Mon 11 th - Wed 18 th		Annual Conference	
Tue	12 th	Mountain	Mission Pick-up day
Wed	13 th	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thur	14 th	6:00 pm	Prayer Group
Sun	17 th	Methodist Man of the Year Shephard's Last Sunday	
Father's Day		9:00 am	Communion / Chapel
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Worship
		5:30 pm	Youth / Young Adult

Mon	18 th	6:30 pm	Trustee
Tue	19 th	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed	20 th	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	23 rd	5:00 pm	Manna Mission
Sun	24 th	Singh's First Sunday	
Ice Cream Social		9:00 am	Communion / Chapel
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Worship
		4:30 pm	Devotions
		5:30 pm	Youth / Young Adult
Mon, 25 th - Fri, 29 th		Vacation Bible School	
July Events			
Sun, 1 st - Sat, 7 th		Family Promise	
Sun	1 st	9:00 am	Communion / Chapel
Railroad Picnic		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Worship - VBS Music
		4:30 pm	Devotions
		5:30 pm	Youth / Young Adult

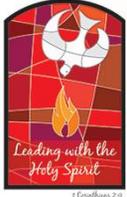


Vacation Bible School

June 25 – 29



SEE THE
POSSIBILITIES



Annual Conference

June 11– 13

Northern Kentucky Convention Center
Covington, KY

#kac2018

Church Beyond... An Afternoon of Service & Learning

Be sure to sign up for Church Beyond ...An Afternoon of Service & Learning. Church Beyond will be held on Tuesday, June 12, at 2:00 p.m. as part of our conference, and we are hoping for 100% participation! One of the groups at Church Beyond... An Afternoon of Service & Learning will put together Health Kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Our Goal is 2,000 kits.

Mission Offering

Each year, all churches in the Kentucky Conference are invited to participate in a mission offering at Annual Conference. The Mission Offering for 2018 Annual Conference will support leadership development for our Campus Ministries. Our goal is to raise more than ever before and Sunday, June 3rd is the suggested date for local churches to collect the offering. Our campus ministries are committed to developing passionate spiritual disciples who are leaders in our local churches, in our communities, in our annual conference and in the world. The Kentucky Annual Conference has ten campus ministries (Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Lindsey Wilson College, Morehead State University, Northern Kentucky University, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, Union College, Western Kentucky University) that are committed to discovering young people, developing them into disciples and sending them to transform our communities and the world. Of this year's Mission Offering, 45% will be used in intentional development opportunities for our campus ministers and students, 45% will be sent to each individual campus ministry for local leadership development, and 10% will be given to Africa University for the development our leaders in our churches in Africa. Sunday, June 3rd, is the designated date for collection of this year's offering. If that date is not convenient for your church, please collect the offering at a more conducive time. Each congregation is asked to send its offering to Annual Conference with the church's lay member. Checks should be made payable to the Kentucky Conference Treasurer. Bishop Fairley and the extended cabinet challenge all Kentucky United Methodists to give generously to this year's Annual Conference Mission Offering that will go to our campus ministries. To support this challenge, Bishop Fairley and the members of the extended cabinet have agreed to contribute personally to the Mission Offering. As a group, they have committed to give at least \$20,000.

Run for the Children 5K

Don't forget to sign up for the Run for the Children 5K. This pre-conference event benefits the Ida Spence Mission of Northern Kentucky and will take place Sunday, June 10 at 6:00 p.m. The race will start promptly at 6:00 pm. The Run for the Children 5K features an out and back course that starts and ends at the Spirit of '76 Shelter at Lunken Airport Playfield. The course uses the Lunken Airport Bike Path, which sits atop the levee that protects the airport from flooding of the Little Miami River. The paved path is wide and affords many nice views of the airport for plane spotters. You also get nice views of the river in places. It is fully paved and relatively flat with a few hills. All pre-registered participants receive a free race t-shirt (race day participants receive a t-shirt as supplies last). Online registration is available until June 3, 2018.