

Newsletter – Westview Christian Church

**(Disciples of Christ)**

**The Rev. V. J. Stover ,**

**Interim Senior Minister**

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**August 2019**

*Minister's Moment*

In July and August, for my sermons, I have been reviewing the daily camp themes from this year’s camp curriculum. All the themes have key words from different languages, yet all are related to the over-arching theme of “Peace Works.” In order as presented at camp, these words or phrases are: ALOHA, UBUNTU, SHALOM, AGAPE, HEIWA, SI SE PUEDE, and ALOHA. Of course, each theme is tied to an interpretation of scripture, and each theme has a lesson to incorporate before a person of faith can become a better peace-maker.

The first ALOHA means welcome. It is the word for hospitality. Its scripture is Luke 14:15-24 (the Great Banquet) where the challenge is to welcome those who have been excluded from justice and community.

UBUNTU is a Swazi (African) word which means “I am because we are.” It is a word for community and the importance of community in the Body of Christ. The corresponding scripture is

1 Corinthians 12:1-27.

We studied SHALOM and AGAPE on the same day because our camp week is shorter than the number of days for the curriculum, and we felt every word should be studied. SHALOM is Hebrew for peace, but not peace as a destination. SHALOM is the process of peace and means that in the process there might be conflict; the process is creating peace from conflict. Its scripture is Genesis 7:1-26. AGAPE is Greek for the love which reconciles as announced in John 13:1-17. It is about laying aside self and the need to be right so that one may remain in relationship with others.

From Japan, we studied the word

HEIWA (hay-ee-wah, no accented syllable)

through the lens of Mark 12: 28-31. It is in this

great commandment that we learn self-sacrifice is

needed for peace.

SI SE PUEDE is Spanish for “Yes, we can.” It’s the spirit of action as presented in Luke 10:25-37 (the Good Samaritan). It teaches us that being part of Christ’s body empowers us to take risks as peacemakers.

The second ALOHA means “Go now in peace,” as blessed and commissioned from John 14:25-27. It means that each of us can do life’s transitions in the peace of Christ which goes with us and ahead of us even when we do not know where we are going. This is the peace we share when we say, “Peace be with you.”

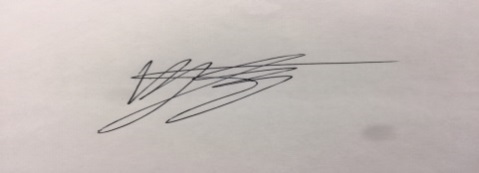
I hope you enjoy reading these scriptures and contemplating the themes of camp.

Beyond these sermons, I am planning a shorter series beginning on the last Sunday in August. On this Sunday we will begin celebrating our Disciples of Christ history (Ezekiel 37:1-10 on August 25th), and exploring our faith through the lens of what I call “The 4 Great C’s,” that is, The Great Cognition (Matthew 3:13-17 on September 1st), The Great Confession (Matthew 16:13-20 on September 8th), The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40 on September 15th), and the Great Commission) (Mathew 28:16-20 on September 22nd).

I hope these glimpses into the sermons yet to come will encourage you in your faith and in your worship attendance. If you cannot come, please, remember that our services are recorded each week on CD, and are available for use at home. Someone from the church will be glad to deliver a CD to your home.

Peace be with you.

Pastoral VJ Stover



**FROM THE MODERATOR**

During the Board Meeting on July 9th, I was directed to establish two committees: Scholarship and Sub Committee for Stewardship and Finance. The first committee will be made up of three members and probably meet twice a year to determine the eligibility of applicants for scholarships from the Scholarship Fund. The criteria was created two years ago by the board, and committee members need only examine each applicant according to this criteria. The second committee will be made up of 3 members who will view the interest derived from the Westview Christian Church Fund, and according to the criteria established the board two years ago, will make recommendations to the Stewardship and Finance Committee as to the use of these fund for our church. This committee will meet twice a year, and members will serve on a rotating bases. I am looking for people who normally have not served lately in church activities. Please see me to apply. Unless an emergency makes it necessary, the board decided not to meet in August.

Joe Lawson - Moderator



**ELDER’S CORNER**

"May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us."

These words were written by Saint Teresa of Avila, a 16th century Christian mystic, a writer, a nun, and reformer of the Carmelite order. In a difficult period of the Spanish Inquisition and at a time when women had few rights or opportunities, St. Teresa was an influential and pivotal figure of her generation.

Let us meditate on her words of peace and pray that we may be instruments of peace even in those moments when it seems most difficult.

Submitted by Lynn Gosnell

**AUGUST BOARD MEETING**

There will be NO board meeting in August.

**OUTREACH** **COMMITTEE**

**STOREHOUSE FOOD PANTY**

The July Storehouse Food Panty set a record for the number of persons served in both the Senior and normal distribution times. This couldn’t have been done without the strong support of their volunteer base. It would be good and very helpful if each of us gave some prayer and thought to becoming a part of this volunteer base on occasion.

39 seniors were assisted by 24 volunteers at the first distribution. Then at the normal Wednesday evening and Saturday times, 169 families involving 743 individuals were served by 22 volunteers. 23 veterans were included in these three distributions. Since they had only anticipated and prepared for 32 families on Wednesday, last minute pressure was put on the volunteers to prepare extended food and meat supplies for the 34 additional families.

In the first six months of 2019, your gifts have assisted the Storehouse Food Pantry provide food for a total of 1,001 families which enabled the feeding of 4,033 individuals including 87 veterans. OH MY! Did we help do that? Sounds like Jesus feeding the 5,000. How critical are the food gifts that are brought to the altar every Sunday to receive God’s blessings? And, how honored are we to be called to support this ministry of God?

**ADDITIONAL WESTVIEW OUTREACH IN JULY**

During the month, the Outreach Committee was able to forward a portion of your gifts to the Beechwood Christian Church in French Lick, IN to assist in the development of a handicapped accessible playground for children.

We also contributed a gift in Westview’s name to the Special Olympics programs of Marion County.

THANKS BE TO GOD! Some of the blessings given by God are opportunities to work with Him in answering the call to reach out to others. Whenever we do these things, we honor the Son of God. In fact, Jesus said so.

Nita Lamm and Stuart Mill, Outreach Functional Committee Co-chairs

**WESTVIEW AND KROGER**

Do you have a Kroger Plus Shoppers card? If you do, you can now link Westview to your rewards cards and we will receive a percentage of the amount you spend shopping! It’s an easy way to support Westview. You can even pass this along to your friends and family. All you need to do is this:

1. Create or log in to your Kroger account
2. Scroll down to “Community”

3) Click on “Kroger Community Rewards”

4) Click on “I’m a customer”

5) Look for, and click on Westview CC, or look for TK777

**JULY-AUGUST SERVICE PROJECTS**

Service Projects for July and August are **gently used/new underwear and school supplies** for neighborhood grade school #107.  It's impossible to pay attention to your studies when you are sitting in soiled underwear.  Without extra underwear the child can not be in class, and must wait in the nurse's office for many hours. The nurse has a few pair of under and outer wear but these will not last long.

**Lew Wallace school #107** is EXTREMELY DIVERSE and EXTREMELY MULTI-CULTURAL in its student body.  Many parents are unable to afford all the school supplies that are needed for their children.  Supplies are handed out as the need arises.  **School Supplies needed are: pencils, pencil top erasers, crayons, kleenex, small pencil bags, and 8 1/2 x 11 inch ruled paper.**

For questions contact the church office.

**MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE**

On August 21st, Westside Church Mixed Bowling begins at Western Bowl, which is west of I 465 on Washington Street and on the southside of that street after you pass High School road. Bowling is on Wednesday nights at 6:30 and will cost $15 a night. We begin August 21 and bowl to May 6th with the bowling banquet on May 13th at Iron Skillet. Sanction Fees of $21 have to be paid the first night you bowl. We will not bowl Nov.25th, Dec. 25th, and Jan 01, and in addition we will not bowl one week in December. Four Westview members are currently bowling every other week along with several other members. If you would like to join in the fun, please see Joe Lawson.



**INDIANA DISCIPLES WOMEN’S RETREAT**

The Indiana Disciples Women’s retreat will be held **August 23-25, 2019** at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park. The theme will be “Lift Every Voice”. The cost of the weekend event is $75. For online registration and information go to:

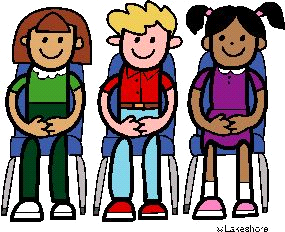
Indianadisciples.org. Our congregational contacts are: Ethel Cline and Sylvia Mill.

**COOKING CLASSES**

We will be offering cooking classes at the Church. They will be for four weeks in September, four weeks in January and four weeks in April-May.

They are open to everyone. Please let Mary Chittenden know if you plan on attending the September classes by August 25th. September classes are September 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 9:30 am.

Hope to see you there. We always have a lot of fun!

**BACK TO SCHOOL FEST**

With *Iglesia Hermandad Christiana* taking the lead, Westview members helped during the Back to School Fest on July 13 to give out over 150 backpacks to neighborhood youth and others before the starting of school this year. This was a joint ministry for community outreach which was very successful. Thank you to all our volunteers who mad e this event happen.

**DAVID CHRISTOPHER BOLLING**

Dear Westview Christian Church,

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!   I am very happy and honored to have received The Guarnery Scholarship, once again, for my final semester at Bethel University (formerly Bethel College).

This fall I will be a second year senior.  My major is in Communication and Media Arts.  I have really enjoyed the past four years at Bethel, have enjoyed meeting new friends, and living in Mishawaka.  I have done very well in my classes and have made the Dean’s List several times.  This fall I am looking forward to participating in Bethel's annual service day project, which I always enjoy.   I am also looking forward to graduating in May 2020.

Receiving this scholarship is truly appreciated.  Thank you again, Westview, for all of your support, and to the Guarnery Family and 7th and 8th members for making this scholarship possible.

David Christopher Bolling



**PULL TAB DONATION**

Thank you to all who donated pull tabs this last year. We collected twice as much as last year, so our donation amounted to 4 ½ gallons. Thanks to Cossette and Bruce for taking them down to the Ronald McDonald House.

|  | **~August 2019 ~** | | | | |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  |  | **1** | **2** | **3** |
| **4**  9:30am Sunday School  10:30am-Worship  Pick-Up Band | **5**  r | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** |
| **11**  9:30am Sunday School  10:30am-Worship  Elder’s Mtg. | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** | **17** |
| **18**  9:30am Sunday School  10:30am-Worship | **19** | **20**  Lunch Bunch  MCL 11:30am | **21** | **22** | **23** | **24** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **25**  9:30am Sunday  School  10:30am-Worship | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** | **331** |
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**Westview Christian Church, Indianapolis**