

**Peckville and Bradley Memorial United Methodist Charge
Summer 2006 News Letter**

From The Pastors' Pen

Greetings in the name of Christ,

We are Easter people; those who believe that God is with us still, leading us into tomorrow. Prevenient grace, isn't that what John Wesley reminded us about God's calling us, wooing us all into the future?

And just as Memorial Day is a moment of transition honoring our memories of loved ones no longer with us, and the coming of summer, so too, we look forward to the day of Pentecost and the celebration of God's active and leading presence. What a month...the month of May...Mothers and remembering, and graduations.

Our church family has three students graduating from college: Sarah Taylor, Amanda Marchegiani, Jade Armezzani, Brian Cleary and Joshua Pregnar. From high school: Tommy Ralston, Peter Mackar.

As I write this, it is the end of May. During the coming weeks, we will be looking towards summer. It is a time to focus on vacations, but let's not forget our church. The book of Ecclesiastes says, "Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days (11:1). This is an encouragement to be generous with our resources, our love, our time, our energy and our gifts. This year the Confirmation class learned these concepts.

The 2006 Confirmation class was taken into the membership of the church on Palm Sunday. The students that participated in the class were: Paige Williams, Wayne Dietz, Jeffery Tarby, Angela Parry, and Jenna Marrasso. We met for an hour and a half every Sunday. The class learned the fundamentals of Methodism. Each student wrote a statement of faith.

Evangelist Billy Sunday used to tell a story about a Christian who got a job in a lumber camp whose workers had a reputation for being ungodly. A friend, hearing that the man had been hired, said to him, "If those lumberjacks ever find out that you are a Christian, you are going to be in for a hard time."

After a year, the man decided to return home for a visit. While in town, he ran into the friend who had predicted that he would receive ridicule and persecution from the other workers in the lumber camp. "Well," asked the friend, "Did they give you a hard time because you are a Christian?" "Oh, not at all," the man replied. "They didn't give me a bit of trouble-- they never found out!" I wonder how many believers are like that? Their friends and co-workers who are not believers are completely unaware of their relationship to Christ. These "undercover Christians" never say or do anything to give evidence of their identification with Him.

The Lord wants us as His followers to live for Him openly and to confess Him before others so that there is absolutely no question about our allegiance. Being a Christian should never be kept secret. I like the way one man put it, "If you were arrested and charged with being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" In Matthew 5:16, Jesus says, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see you good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: "To be ashamed of the gospel is to be a shame to the gospel!"

Blessings,

Pastor Sharon and Fred

SHHH! IT'S A SURPRISE

On Sunday June 4th there will be a surprise birthday party given for Dorothy Warring immediately following Peckville's worship service given by her family. All are invited.

But remember don't tell Dorothy.

A healthy heart beats with love for Jesus.

Last Day of Sunday School until the fall

Sunday May 21st was our last day of Sunday School until September 10th . Everyone please have a wonderful summer.

Summer Schedule

Peckville's worship service will start at 10:30 starting on Sunday May 29 thru September 3rd.

Pray as if everything depends on God, work as if everything depends on you.

VBS

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 24th thru the 28th.

Bea Place has agreed to be chairperson again this year!!! Bea will be looking for help. Why not volunteer your help before she asks? It really helps a lot to know who your help is when making all the preparations. Thank You in advance.

The best way to escape temptation is to flee to God.

Just a reminder

It's never to late to give a gift in your Lenten or Easter Envelope. If you found you're envelopes lying around after the holiday don't think it was too late.

Praise is the voice of a soul set free.

No deed is small when done for Christ

Wyoming Annual Conference will be held June 1-2-3 at the University of Scranton.

Great American Bake Sale

Peckville will hold its third annual Great American bake Sale on Saturday July 29th. In the past we have raised \$1400.00 to help end childhood hunger in America and we need your help again this year. We are asking for your support in help with baking, manning the tent on the 29th and of course buying some of the goodies. Thank You in advance.

Child Hunger in America

In a country as prosperous as America, it is difficult to imagine hungry children. Unfortunately, children are the most likely to live in families that experience hunger and suffer long-term consequences from this deprivation.

The consequences of even short periods of hunger in children are often serious and long-term. Hungry children are more likely to get sick and be absent from school. Even mild under-nutrition during critical periods of growth may lead to reductions in physical growth and impaired brain function.

The Facts About Child Hunger

- Thirteen million children in America are hungry or are at risk of hunger. Every fourth person standing in a soup kitchen line is a child.
- Every year a child grows up in poverty costs \$9,000 in lost future productivity over his or her working life.

Sources: United States Department of Agriculture, America's Second Harvest, Children's Defense Fund, and Food Research and Action Center.

**A heartfelt apology can't change the past, but
it can brighten the future.**

150th Anniversary

Peckville UMC will be 150 years old in the fall of 2006. During the May Administrative Council meeting Tom G Taylor Jr. was appointed Sesquicentennial Celebration chairperson. Anyone interested in working on this committee please contact Tom in person or webservant@peckvilleumc.org. Please put Saturday October 14 on your calendar. Our banquet will be held at 5:00pm at Fiorelli's Plaza.

There's no better sermon than a good example.

Calendar of Events

5/21– last day of Sunday school until fall
5/28 thru 9/3 – Peckville worship 10:30
6/1-2-3 – Wyoming Annual Conference
6/18 – honoring graduates during worship
7/24-28 – Vacation Bible School
7/29 – Great American Bake Sale.
9/7- Administrative Council meetings Bradley Memorial at 7:00pm, Peckville at 8:00pm
9/10– Sunday School resumes at 9:45a.m
Peckville worship resumes at 11:00am.

**Christians worth their salt make others thirsty for
the water of life.**

**The mission statement of the Peckville and
Bradley Memorial Churches:
To Glorify God by sharing
The Gospel of Jesus Christ,
Nurturing disciples,
And reaching out to a world in need.**

**Pastor Sharon may be reached at 489-0713
or 282-0104.**

**You can reach the charge secretary (Beth
Taylor) at 383-2119 or at
edt1157@yahoo.com.**

**Remember to visit Peckville's web site at
peckvilleumc.org**

**HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**