



A Message from Doug

Because I was out of town I wasn't able to be with our kids during Vacation Bible School except for one evening as the session was winding down. So I had to ask a lot of questions of the adults and the children about the theme and about what they were learning. It was all about a treasure hunt in which God's treasured gifts are discovered by digging. "Dig it!" the kids would shout and sing. Then last Sunday they arrived for the 10:45 service with their archeologist's hats and binoculars to sing for us again. I appreciated the image. I appreciate the fact that our kids are being taught that God loves us freely and that there are many wonderful things to learn by digging mentally and spiritually. I want our kids and our adults to be stimulated by a climate that urges them to think deeply and to question and to weigh options. A rabbi friend of mine in Iowa City frequently uses the phrase, "Whenever two Jews are gathered together there are at least three opinions." I think that is a healthy thing – many ways of thinking, many opportunities to question, many avenues toward the truth. Thanks VBS leaders for urging us to "dig it."
~ Doug

A Message from Julie

Each year part of the planning for our Sr. High work trip is coming up with a t-shirt to commemorate the trip. Sometimes ideas come easily (Hilary Paulson's - "I Love Dulac") or a youth is inspired through a discussion (Nick Ciarimboli's - logo of 3 tools poised like our 3 crooked crosses) and sometimes it's a struggle - this year for example. "I'm Lucky-God took me to Kentucky!" didn't come easily. As I reflect on our work trip this year, reread our journal, look at pictures and remember all the planning that went into it - it seems the shirt process is a good metaphor for the trip. It wasn't easy - but certainly I feel blessed that God took me to Kentucky. I feel blessed to be a part of a congregation that supports youth ministry here at Walnut Hills, that gives up precious time to sell hot dogs and beer, that buys baked goods, sub sandwiches, valentines and anything else we can think to sell! I'm blessed to be able to work with youth who will search murky water for lost glasses, dig holes in raging heat, stay up late to listen to a friend, and make me laugh when I didn't think I could. I'm blessed to work with adults who volunteer to drive hundreds of miles, work long hours, sleep too little, patch up wounds - their own and the youth - all the while sharing God's love each step of the way. Was it easy? No! Did everything go smoothly? Hardly ever! Would I do it again? In a heartbeat! Thank you all for getting us to Kentucky!
~ Julie Stone, Director of Youth Ministries

New Sunday Morning and Wednesday Evening Adult Studies coming in September!

Beginning September 10, Sunday morning at 9:30 opportunities will be:

➤ "A History of God," based on the book by Karen Armstrong, facilitated by Charlie Adams. This 4-week class takes a look at the ways human beings have experienced the idea of god throughout the ages: from the days before Abraham to today.

➤ "It Takes All Types," based on the book "God's Gifted People, Discovering Your Personality as a Gift," by Gary L. Harbaugh, facilitated by Paul Woodard. This 13-week class shows how we can use the Myers-Briggs Personality Indicator to get a better handle on the unique "Gifts" God has given to each one of us as very important and very unique individuals in God's Universe.

Beginning September 13, Wednesday evening 6-8 p.m. opportunities will be:

➤ "Companions in Christ," a 28-week small group experience in Spiritual Formation, facilitated by Susan Guy. This study focuses on our experiences of God and our discovery of spiritual practices for sharing more fully in the life of Christ. The class will explore scripture and prayer, and reflect on the gifts that God gives to each person. Cost is \$20.

➤ "Living the Questions," a 13-week program for Christian exploration and spiritual formation, facilitated by Eric Guy. Topics include creativity and stories of creation; evil, suffering and a God of love; social justice; and compassion.

If you would like to sign up for any of the classes, please check the STUB or contact Susan Guy at sguy@whumc.org.

Leaders and Teachers Orientation/Planning Session

Wednesday, August 30, 7:00 p.m., planning and orientation for leaders and teachers of our children's, Junior High and Senior High programming. All will meet in the West Gathering Area for a fifteen minute information session. Following the information session CAP leaders will continue their planning session in the music room, Sunday school teacher teams meet in their individual classrooms and Junior/Senior High teachers/leaders will meet in their youth rooms. **Please attend this important meeting.** Contact the office center at 270-9226 to let Pam and Julie know you if you are able or unable to attend.

Attention all musicians!

We are looking for a few—well, we're looking for all instrumentalists! Experience is not a requirement, just a desire to serve musically in worship! We are in the process of creating a flexible band, using the instruments we have available, to lead worship occasionally. We are also looking for people who play acoustic guitar, banjo, flute, oboe, accordion, or other folk instruments to build a folk group for leading worship. If you are interested in any of these things, please e-mail Dawn Morgan at dawn@whumc.org, call the church at 270-9226, or check the STUB.

Dedication August 13

Please join in a celebration as we dedicate the Multi-faith Habitat for Humanity House on Sunday, August 13 at 2:00 p.m. The dedication will take place at 1900 Jefferson in Des Moines.

Reconciling Ministry

The Reconciling Ministry Team will have their first meeting on Sunday, August 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Koth Library. We invite you to be a part of this ministry as we discuss what Reconciling Ministry can mean for Walnut Hills.

Food Pantry Sunday

Food Pantry Sunday is coming up on Sunday, August 20, and our featured food for August is pasta and rice. Be sure to stop by and pick some up to support the Des Moines Area Religious Council!

Join Us for WHIFF

Save the Date for WHIFF 15 (Walnut Hills Invitational Fearless Foursome) on Sunday, August 27, 2:30 p.m. at Woodland Hills Golf Course. Shot gun start. Sign up sheets available in the East Gathering area on Sunday. For more information check the STUB, the committee will contact you.

Stephen Ministry Team Helping with Visitations

Walnut Hills Stephen Ministry Team will be helping with hospital and home visitation beginning this month. As support to our ministerial visitation team, Wednesdays and Saturdays each week, Stephen Ministers will be checking in with those of our congregation who are hospitalized. They will be wearing Walnut Hills Stephen Ministry name tags and will also be carrying Stephen Ministry calling cards. Stephen Ministers are trained laypersons who are called to give care to persons in our congregation.

In the Spotlight ...

All Church Kick-Off

Everyone's invited to a church wide picnic on Kick-off Sunday, September 10. Following the second service, we will eat potluck food, play games, fly kites and more! Please mark your calendars now, and keep watching the newsletter for more details. We hope to see you there!

This Sunday, August 13, 2006 10th Sunday after Pentecost

DOUG PETERS' MESSAGE:

"More Than Being Nice"

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

MUSIC: Kim Sorensen

Coffee House 9:30 a.m.

Music by the Kathi Hall

Service to Others

Preparers and/or servers are needed for **CFUM Low Income Meal Program** (located at Trinity) Tuesday, August 15 and **Meals for the Homeless** (Churches United Shelter) Tuesday, September 5. Check the STUB.

The 12th Annual Des Moines Area Religious Council Interfaith Brunch will be held on Sunday, August 27 at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 924 Polk Boulevard, Des Moines. Kosher breakfast/brunch will be served from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The cost is a \$6 minimum donation, and children 6 and under are free. This is a fundraising event for the Des Moines Area Religious Council, and benefit interfaith efforts. For information contact DMARC at 277-6969.

The African Children's Choir will hold a concert at Walnut Hills on Sunday, October 29 at 6:00 p.m. We will be hosting 25 children and 8 adult chaperones, and there is much to do! If you would be willing to serve on a coordinating team for this special event, please check the stub or contact Susan Guy, sguy@whumc.org.

In Our Prayers

- † John Pierce, hospitalized at Lutheran.
- † Dan Crew and his family in the death of his grandfather, Jim McLaughlin.
- † Lisa Jacobson's father, diagnosed with cancer.
- † Katie Lynn born to Becky, Jeremy and Zoie Vaught.
- † Anastasia & Anya Addington baptized August 6. Parents are Steve & Andrea Addington.

Satellite Services

Sunday afternoons

~ Worship at Silvercrest Assisted Living - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday mornings

~Worship at Timberline Care Facility Deerfield-9:30-10:15 a.m.

4th Sunday afternoons

~Worship at Illahee Hills Retirement Residence- 3:30 p.m.

With Our Children

3rd Grade Bibles: Letters were sent August 1 to parents of third graders to receive a gift Bible from Walnut Hills on Sunday, September 24. If you did not receive a letter and you would like your third grade child to receive a Bible, please check the STUB or call the church office by September 3 with your child's full name and which service you will be attending; 8:30 or 10:45. If you have any questions, please call or email Pam: 270-9226, pam@whumc.org.

Help Provide a Bible: If you would like to donate toward the Bible gifts for our third graders, please write your check for \$18.50 to Walnut Hills, and write, "Third grade Bible" on the memo line.

Is God calling you to be a Sunday School teacher? Our goal is 4 teachers per room. Classes available for teachers: 3rd Grade needs 4, 4th Grade needs 2 and 5th/6th Grade needs 2. Contact Pam at 270-9226, pam@whumc.org or check the STUB.

Sunday Morning Classes - 9:30-10:30 am. beginning September 17. Children classes are 3 yr/4 yr, 5 yr/Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th/6th grades.

All Church Pizza Night - Wednesday, September 13, Pizza served from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Please check the stub if you are planning to attend.

CAP - Creative Arts Program - Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 pm. Begins with Pizza Night September 13: Kindergarten-2nd grade, 3rd - 4th grade and 5th/6th grade - 56 Club.

CAP Theme "J. W. & Company" This theme is designed to create an event that lets your children experience life in the times of John Wesley and the circuit riders. Small group leaders guide the children through interactive centers.

56 Club Theme - Fellowship & Service, social time, games, crafts, drama/ storytelling, discussion, music.

With Our Youth

Youth Service Sundays:

August 20 at both services the Senior High youth will present their pictures and stories of their week at Red Bird Mission in Kentucky.

August 27 at both services the Junior High youth will present their pictures and stories of their weekend of service at Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center.

With Our Adults

Dinner for 6, 7, 8 is an opportunity for singles or couples to meet and eat with each other. Dinner is at a different person's home each month, the host selects the menu and assigns members of the group to bring part of the meal. The signup for September, October, and November is August 6 - 27 by checking the STUB. For more information contact Terrie Kohl at rcmtlk@msn.com, or 987-5957

With Our Music

If you enjoy singing and being involved with a fun, dynamic group of people, then Walnut Hills has a group for you! The Celebration Singers (formerly known as the Adult Choir) welcomes all high schoolers and adults (9th grade through 99!) to join us in singing God's praises on Thursday nights and Sunday mornings. We will sing a variety of music, including new choir works, old-fashioned favorites, praise music, contemporary Christian, and more! All skill levels are welcome, and you need not be able to read music. . .this is a group for everyone!

Would you like an extra musical challenge? Beginning on September 7, the Walnut Hills Chorale will meet from 8-8:30 pm (right after the Celebration Singers) on Thursday evenings. This group will focus on more challenging works for a capella and accompanied choir. We will present our musical offerings occasionally on Sunday mornings and at some holiday events.

Do you like to use your hands to make music? The Ringmasters are looking for you! This bell group meets on Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. in rooms 101 & 102. Grades 7-12 and all adults are welcome to play in this group, and all skill levels are welcome. *Come and meet all the groups from 5:30-8:00 p.m. on August 31, when we'll have a potluck dinner and desserts. Information about all groups and a small rehearsal of the Celebration Singers will follow.*

Groups Gather

- ◆ **Hilltoppers:** August 19, 6 p.m., Walnut Hills. Beverages, FUN and Games provided! It is a Decorated Box Supper! More info to follow. Hosted by the Bill Kramer's at 276-6619 and Amie Ybarra's at 987-9459. RSVP SOON!
- ◆ **Knitting Ministry:** Sunday, August 20, 3 p.m. Koth Library. 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month.
- ◆ **Men's Round Table Resumes:** Wednesday, August 23, 11:45 a.m.—1 p.m. at Walnut Hills. Open to all men. Host is Jim Thomas.
- ◆ **Women's Night Out:** Monday, August 28, Salad potluck. Place to be determined. If interested in hosting, call Liz at 278-6842.

Walnut Hills United Methodist Church

12321 Hickman Rd
Des Moines, IA 50323

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Walnut Hills Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Walnut Hills United Methodist Church

12321 Hickman Rd
Des Moines IA 50323
Phone: 515-270-9226; Fax: 515-270-0838
www.whumc.org

Doug Peters, Pam Deeds & Susan Guy,
Ministers

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Services

9:30 -10:30 a.m. Coffee House