

Lent, a time of Beauty...Really?

by Pastor Gary

“I do not have much patience with a thing of beauty that must be explained to be understood. If it does need additional interpretation by someone other than the creator, then I question whether it has fulfilled its purpose.” Charlie Chaplin

“Beauty is in the eye of the beholder” is an idiom, but folks aren’t too sure of its origins. The first person to use it in the form we know today (“beauty is in the eye of the beholder”) is accredited to the author Margaret Wolfe Hungerford. She included the phrase in her book ‘Molly Bawn’ (1878). I really like the way Silent film star/Comedian Charlie Chaplin addresses the topic of “patience” in the above quote too. The way he uses the concept of creator as the authoritative qualify/ “expert” speaks volumes as to who we should be turning to when looking for more meaning or better clarification.

When looking at the season of Lent, beauty or patience aren’t the first words that come to mind, but that doesn’t mean they can’t be found. Chaplin makes a good point by including the word “creator” in his quote, and I think it is most helpful to us as we walk through this season. I have heard many people say that patience is one of those things that they would like to have more of, but seem to believe that obtaining it is beyond his or her reach.

When we plug God “in”, especially at the very beginning of anything we do, happiness and blessing are sure to ensue. My advice for those who are struggling with seeing Lent as a time of great beauty, find great newness in the realization that our Creator/God is the one who is making all things new, and it is God who will guide you to a place of peace that passes any kind of earthly understanding. Perhaps by doing this, Lent will become a time of new connection, new realizations and a deeper understanding of how forgiveness and mercy are supposed to work. There is great blessings to be realized, if we will only turn to our creator and take the time to allow His artwork to be seen this season.

As you are, I too shall stay, Christ’s servant. Pastor Gary





A United Methodist Teaching Moment...

The Doctrine of Transubstantiation...

Do United Methodists believe the communion elements (Bread and Grape Juice) actually become the body and blood of Christ?

This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion, the official statement on communion, says...

“The Christian church has struggled through the centuries to understand just how Christ is present in the Eucharist. Arguments and divisions have occurred over the matter. The Wesleyan tradition affirms the reality of Christ's presence, although it does not claim to be able to explain it fully.”

This Holy Mystery later continues, “United Methodists, along with other Christian traditions, have tried to provide clear and faithful interpretations of Christ's presence in the Holy Meal. Our tradition asserts the real, personal, living presence of Jesus Christ. For United Methodists, the Lord's Supper is anchored in the life of the historical Jesus of Nazareth, but is not primarily a remembrance or memorial. We do not embrace the medieval doctrine of transubstantiation, though we do believe that the elements are essential tangible means through which God works. We understand the divine presence in temporal and relational terms. In the Holy Meal of the church, the past, present, and future of the living Christ come together by the power of the Holy Spirit so that we may receive and embody Jesus Christ as God's saving gift for the whole world.”

Note: This explanation is taken from information found at <http://www.umc.org/> . This is a great place to look for information about how the United Methodist Church works, and thinks. Thanks for reading.

This Sunday, March 12th at 6 p.m., will be The Way Lenten Service at Casey UMC. Jake Hoult will lead our worship and Pastor Walter Miller from the Westfield UMC will be giving the message. We will also have some special music from our Sanctuary Choir and Carillon Choir. After the service we will be having light finger foods and desserts in fellowship hall. We are asking anyone who is able to bring a food to share to please email or call the office, or sign up on the bulletin board.

Thank you so much, and we look forward to seeing you Sunday evening!!



Don't Forget...March 12th!



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday April 13th
Holy Thursday Service (with communion)
7:00pm

Friday April 14th
CMA Community Good Friday Service @ The Nazarene Church 11:00am – 1:00pm

Easter Sunday April 16th
Casey UMC Sunrise Service with breakfast following
6:30am

1st Service is at 8:00am

2nd Service is at 10:30am



Auction

Thanks to all who contributed in so many different ways to help our youth mission fund raiser such a success! It looks as though we should be pretty-well funded for this summer's trips. Once again God has blessed us beyond measure! Amen

Thank You

We wish to thank our church family for the cards, flowers, visits, food and telephone calls received following our recent surgeries (Lee had cataract surgery and Marilyn had left knee replacement). All were appreciated so much!

-Lee & Marilyn Ryan

Dear Casey UMC family –

Thank you so much for the Valentine's Day box full of goodies! It had all of my favorite snacks in there! I am so blessed to have such an amazing church family. It truly made my week. Thanks Again!

-Beau Biggs

I just wanted to send you a special thank you for the Valentine's Day package. It is such a blessing to receive a box packed full of love from your church family. Thank you so much for doing it. I most definitely felt your love. You are a light in my life. God Bless, Taylor Navel

To my church family –

Thank you so much for the wonderful Valentine's Day box of goodies! It is great to know that my church family is thinking of me while I am away at school. Thank you!!

-Robin Cummins

Round Robin Lenten Services 6:00 p.m.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host Church</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Message</u>
<u>By</u> March 5, 2017	Charleston Otterbein UMC	2175 Harrison Ave, Charleston, IL	Pastor Karen Blank-Ewell (Martinsville, Kansas UMC)
March 12, 2017	Casey United Methodist	703 N State Hwy 49, Casey, IL	Pastor Walter Miller (Westfield UMC)
March 19, 2017	Kansas United Methodist	200 E Buena Vista St., Kansas IL	Pastor Gary Fairchild (Casey UMC)
March 26, 2017	Westfield United Methodist	225 S Madison St., Westfield IL	Pastor Chuck Trent (Charleston Otterbein, Oakland UMC)



Happy Hearts Cafe

Sunday, March 19th
11:30 a.m.

Tickets \$8 in advance /\$10 at the door
Chicken & Noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans,
Rolls, drink, and dessert.
Profits will benefit the projects fund, scholarship fund,
Sunday School, and Senior dinner.

There will be entertainment
&
The "Newlywed" Game featuring three couples from Casey UMC!!

Get your tickets today from the church office or Patty Richards!



Sunday, April 9th
8:30 a.m.

**Purchase some Palm Sunday Treats and support the
Visions Circle Missions!!**

Good Friday Service

Casey UMC is responsible for providing approx. 7 gallons of vegetable soup and 2 workers from 11- Noon for the luncheon at the Casey Nazarene Church on Friday, April 14th. If you would be able and willing to make a gallon (or two!) of soup, please sign up outside the office.



**Casey UMC at the Casey Food Pantry
Sign up today!!
Monday, March 20 4-5 p.m.
Tuesday, March 21 1:30 – 3 p.m.**

COMING SOON!!!

**May 5th - Friendship Banquet
May 7th - Graduate Luncheon**

You can always check out our website at www.caseyumc.org

OR

our Facebook page for upcoming events!!