



PANAMA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Steven M. Taylor, Lead Pastor
Grace Notes - July 2019

From Pastor Steve's Desk...

(This is the next installment of an ongoing series of articles regarding what we believe, why we believe it, and why it matters. **In the United Methodist Church, there is change coming.** Within our global denomination, we have some serious divergent views on the authority of scripture, human sexuality, and what that means in the world and in our church. We aren't sure what the changes will look like, but we know that in order to respond to God's call to be the church in the 21st century, the anchor of our doctrinal identity, we need to know what that is. So, I invite you to join me on this journey for God's glory and to build up the church.)

...on doctrine...

Part 14 - Of Purgatory

For many of us who have been Protestant for our entire lives, the Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory may seem foreign and unknown. According to Roman Catholic doctrine, purgatory is the state of cleansing or purification prior to admittance into heaven. The Roman Catholic Church asserts that for those souls who have not been freed of sin, this cleansing process is necessary, and can be affected by the prayers and supplications of the living church. For United Methodists, the doctrine of purgatory is rejected based on the foundational theological underpinnings of scripture and faith as conditions for salvation.

Here's what Article of Religion 14 says about this: The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God. *(From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2016. Copyright 2004 by The United Methodist Publishing House.)*

This article isn't meant to be a criticism of this doctrine, held by millions of Roman Catholics around the world. However, it's meant to highlight the fact that faith and scripture are the primary conditions for eternity with God. Since the Bible doesn't talk about the concept of purgatory, we're not bound by this doctrine as a condition for faith.

In reality, we don't know for sure what happens when a person dies. What the Bible tells us is that those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior by faith are granted God's grace and eternal life. We have faith and hope in the living Word of God and have assurance of salvation, which gives us confidence in God and God's Word. In addition, purgatory is one of the minor points of the faith, about which John Wesley would caution us to not get into arguments. Arguments would only derail our understanding of each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

(Continued on next page)

From Pastor Steve's Desk...(continued)

For each one of us, salvation comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, as asserted by the Apostle Paul. Salvation is not dependent on anything that the people around us do, nor what we do, but by faith alone. In response to that faith, we can actively pray for each other, serve each other, and witness to the saving grace of God through Jesus Christ. In THAT is the living Word of God present and active in the world.

Shalom,
Pastor Steve

Next: Part 15 - Of Speaking in the Congregation in Such a Tongue as the People Understand

Looking ahead...Mark your calendars!

July 14-18 - VBS; "To Mars and Beyond!"; 5:30pm - 8pm
July 27 - Youth Fundraiser Rummage Sale
July 28 - Bake Sale; 8:30am and 11:30am (Red Bird Trip Fundraiser)
August 18-24 - Mission Trip to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky
August 29 - Connections Family Picnic; 5:30pm

VBS

Vacation Bible School is quickly approaching!

The theme is "To Mars and Beyond" and will be held at PUMC
July 14-18 from 5:30 - 8pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30.

We are looking for snack items donations. Please check the
VBS list on the Welcome Table to see
how you might be able to help!

REMEMBER...The robot will be making a guest appearance
every day at VBS!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Panama United Methodist Church Mission Statement

We seek to love the Lord God by introducing people to His Son,
Jesus Christ, and helping these relationships to grow.

SUNDAY Morning Team - July

USHERS

Joel and Jessica Keefer
Darlene Fulton, Roxie Jurkowski

NURSERY HELPERS

July 7

Birth-2: Jenn Johnson and Dawn Sard

July 14

Birth-2: Kim Davis and Gracie Cable

July 21

Birth-2: Carolyn Hughesman and Debbie Donelson

July 28

Birth-2: Marge Vollmer and Graham Vollmer

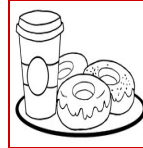
Thank you for volunteering to take care of our little ones during the worship service. We appreciate you! Currently, we are scheduling people to serve in one nursery only. During this time, if and when it becomes apparent that we need an older nursery, too, we will be asking for additional help on that Sunday morning. If something comes up and you cannot serve, please trade with someone or find a replacement.

THANK YOU!!!

**FREE Blood Pressures
and Fasting Blood Sugars**

are offered in
Jody's office (fast 4 hours prior).
Check the monthly calendar for details.

Sunday Morning Coffee Time



Coffee, tea, and light snacks, are available on Sunday mornings, from 8:30 until 10:15am. Please join us!

The café continues to be a very busy place on Sunday mornings, even with no summer Sunday School. The coffee is ready to go by 8:30am. We go through a lot of coffee and lots of goodies each week. We would welcome your donations of baked goods or healthy snacks which can be brought in and placed in the refrigerator or freezer in the kitchen at any time. Please label them for the Café. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

You don't have to be a "member" of the hospital-ity team to offer your services occasionally. If you are interested in helping, please stop in at the café on Sunday mornings and talk to Pam, Julia, Debbie or Roberta.

ATTENTION:

Kitchen Divas and Grill Masters!

On Tuesday, July 23rd, we are hosting a Pampered Chef party to, hopefully, get some new utensils and other kitchen wares for our new kitchen. Every purchase you make, no matter how small, will aid in getting free or 1/2 price items to stock the kitchen with 21st century tools. My main goal is to get a good knife set that comes with a lifetime replacement warranty. Julia is putting together a "wish list" of things she would like to see stocked in the kitchen. So, whether you want to purchase for the church kitchen or your own kitchen, please come join us for refreshments, and product demonstrations. Bring a friend and/or neighbor. We have the room to accommodate all that show up!

The party starts at 6:30 and ends at 8:00. If anyone is interested in obtaining outside orders from those friends that can't attend, I have order forms available. If you've never heard of Pampered Chef, see me or call (see below) with any questions you may have. I LOVE THIS STUFF!

Look for an insert to come soon in the weekly bulletin.

Ricky Eggleston
716-753-4934

THANK YOU, PUMC,
FOR SCHOLARSHIPPING 12 CAMPERS
TO SUMMER CAMP!

WHAT A BLESSING!

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Our church, along with the Panama Baptist Church, will once again co-host a back to school event for the community of the Panama Central School. This event will take place on the PCS playground on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 from 6-8pm. The Back To School Bash will provide love to the community, as well as bridge relationships between the community and the village churches. Most importantly, this event will provide the necessary school supplies for children.

This year, we will also be providing swim gear! Swimming lessons are a part of the physical education program at PCS and it was noted some children do not have the necessary items needed. Additionally, area agencies and organizations will be at the Bash to provide information about their own programs and services.

Our 2018 Back to School Bash supplied over 115 children with back packs and school supplies. This year we anticipate serving as many, or more! If you are interesting in helping, please let DAWN SARD know.

"Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God." 1 John 4:7.

Back to School Bash Donation Ideas

Supplies needed for kids:

Glue Sticks (Elmers)
Erasers
Pencils (Ticonderoga)
Crayons/Colored Pencils/ Markers (Crayola)
Dry Erase markers and erasers/socks
Pencil Boxes or bags
Scissors

Teacher's bonus supplies:

Baby wipes
Tissues
Small paper cups
Hand Sanitizer (Non-alcohol)
Fruit Snacks
Pretzels

Parish Nurse Recipe

Jody Marsh

Cream Cheese Cherry Dessert

Low fat graham crackers
8 oz. fat free cream cheese
1 c. cold skim milk
2 Tbsp. lemon juice
1 small package sugar free instant vanilla pudding
8 oz. fat free cool whip, softened
1 can lite cherry pie filling

Line the bottom of a 9x13 pan with graham crackers. Beat the softened cream cheese in a bowl until smooth. Add the milk and lemon juice to the cream cheese and beat until smooth. Stir in the package of pudding until smooth; then fold in the cool whip. Spread half of the cream cheese mixture over the graham crackers. Repeat with another layer of graham crackers, and cream cheese mixture. Spread the pie filling over top. Refrigerate overnight for graham crackers to soften,

ENJOY!

Makes 20 servings.

Calories: 80
Fat: 0.3 g
Carb: 16
Fiber: 0.4 g
Sugar: 3.0 g
Protein: 3.8 g

<<<< Just One 4 Others >>>>

**The JULY item of the month is
HAND SOAP.**

Thank you all for supporting this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Jody, our Parish Nurse. Please place your donations in Jody's office in the hallway past the elevator.

LUNCH BUNCH

. We will resume our monthly gatherings in September.
See you then!



The **God's Groceries Food Pantry** can be found at PUMC, next to the kitchen. If there is a need, please call the church office for more information, or see Tina Swineford. The Food Pantry entrance is on Church Street...look for signs.

Monday Morning: 9-10am
Monday Evening: 6-7pm
Thursday Evening: 5-7pm

W.A.M. (Women and Missions)

Women and Missions is in desperate need for more women to join our group. We operate on the money that we donate and we don't have many women in our group. If we don't get more women, we will have to disband our group. Please join us the 2nd Monday of each month (April to December) at noon in the conference room. Don't forget your lunch.

If you have questions, please be in touch with Kathy Foulk.

Looking For Something To DO?

Please check the PUMC **JULY** calendar for meetings and events which you might like to attend. The calendar can be found on the last page of this edition of the newsletter.

Looks like it is another busy month. We hope you can find something of interest to you.

With Sympathy to the Families of...

Mary Joanne Fisher

Joanne was born on April 25, 1929.

She passed away on June 13, 2019 at UPMC Hamot in Erie, PA.

Joanne was preceded in death by her husband, George,
a son, Garrett and a grandson, Bradley.

Joanne is survived by 3 daughters, Mary Joyce (Franklin) D'Aurizio,
Shirley (Don) Hewes and Carolyn (Dan) Milliman.

She is further survived by eight grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to the Panama United Methodist Church or to the
Open Meadows Auxiliary Cemetery, c/o Julie Reynolds,
2555 Open Meadows Rd., Ashville, NY 14710

and

Wayne L. Babcock

August 1, 1952 - June 21, 2019

Wayne is survived by his wife, Susan, of Ripley and his children,
Wende (Andrew) Lescynski, Shawn Babcock and Marc Babcock. He is
also survived by his grandchildren, Evan, Bret, Bradley, Ava and Charlotte.

A celebration of Wayne's life will be on Saturday, July 20, 2019
from 1-5pm at the Ripley Rod and Gun Club.

Memorials may be made to the Ripley Rod and Gun Club (9820 Rod and Gun Road)
or to the Ripley Hose Company (15 S. State St.), both in Ripley, NY 14775.

*The love and prayers of the church and community
are with you and your loved ones as you continue
through this time of grief and adjustment.*

**JULY 2019
THROW-BACK-MONTH!**

Do you have any Panama UMC pictures from the 50's, 70's or 90's?

If so, would you bring them into the office? We'll scan them and return them to you.

What fun we'll have viewing them throughout the month of July!

MISSIONS: Mission Meadows, A place to encounter Christ!

RAISING up the next generation of Christ followers to be:

Relational
Accepting
Intentional
Safe
Encouraging

Mission Meadows has hosted thousands of campers, retreat goers and staff over the years. Many have drawn closer to God and made commitments to Christ as a result of their experience here. The vision of the "Nin Old Men" and the stewardship of today's leadership ensure that Camp Mission Meadows will continue in ministry well into the future, with our Lord's help.

Youth Camps are filled with excitement and dynamic programming for kids of all ages and interests. With the help of our well-trained and talented staff, camp is the ultimate summer adventure. While specific schedules and special events change with the age of the campers, each week we encourage campers to seek a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and connect with other youth through traditional camp activities, daily chapels and spontaneous fun. Camp is a great place to connect with other youth in a setting where it is cool to grow as a Christian while encountering fun, genuine relationships.

For more information, check out missionmeadows.org.

Interested in contributing financially to this ministry? Simply mark "Missions" on your giving envelopes or online. See Ted or Sharon Passarelli if you have any questions.

THANK YOU !!!!!

***Thanks to you.....
WE SOLD OUT
of CHICKEN!
on June 30!***

***We sincerely
appreciate your
continued support!***

The Missions Team

***Ready to get your
sweet tooth on?***

***Come to the
Bake Sale on
July 28:
8:30 and 11:30am
in the Gallery.***

***Sponsored by the
Missions Team
(...for our RedBird
Mission trip!)***

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, July 27

Donate items by dropping off your items during office hours in the garage at the church.

A key is available at the office.

If you have items that need to be picked up, please contact Candy Scarem at (814)-873-6742.

If you are interested in having your own sale and would like to join us on the day of our rummage sale, you can rent a space for \$10. We look forward to you joining us. The more people, the larger the draw!

YOUTH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY PUMC VBS

Sunday, July 14 - July 18.

Youth will gather each evening at 5pm.

KINGDOM BOUND

Please get your \$50 deposit in if you haven't yet.

Kingdom Bound is July 28 - Aug. 1

RED BIRD MISSION

August 18 - August 24

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 8

Youth Kick Off

WOW! It looks to be an awesome summer for our youth. Please keep them all in your prayers.

JULY Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 John Hart
- 2 Dick Edwards, Marilyn Storms
- 4 Jamie Ireland
- 7 Jody Marsh, Dick Nagel, Wyatt Braun,
Jamie/Katie Ireland
- 9 Linda Sturges
- 10 Zadok Hughesman, **Cliff/Rachel Reardon**
- 11 **Steve/Jamie Halpainy**
- 13 Jackson Scolton
- 14 Greg Beckerink, **Ed/Barb Trisket, Ray/Cindy Cartwright, Joe/Kelly Osborne**
- 15 Rachel Anderson, Kayo Auge, Carrie Edwards
- 16 Cameryn Eggleston, Bob Johnson, **Bill/Heather Schneider**
- 17 Tory Irgang, **Daniel/Anna Cartwright**
- 18 Dan McGaffick, Connie Middleton, Dan Landin
- 19 Shawn Schnars
- 20 McKenna Kolstee
- 23 Jenny Feliciano
- 24 Graham Miller
- 28 **Richard/Joyce Edwards**
- 30 Lisa Miles, Ashley Loveless, **Andrew/Wende Lescynski**
- 31 Julie Nagel, **Jon/Jennifer Anderson**

A look ahead to AUGUST:

- 1 Dan/Stephanie Landin
- 2 Jenna Rappold, Bruce Hinsdale, **Earl/Kathy Foulk**
- 4 Ray Cartwright, Harrison Osborne
- 6 **Rex/Jody Marsh**
- 7 Tabby Butler

If the names of your immediate family are not included on our monthly birthday/anniversary list, please drop a note into the Newsletter mailbox in the office workroom or let Debbie in the office know. (First and last names as well as birthday and or anniversary dates). We would like to include you and yours!

Reverend Steven M. Taylor, Lead Pastor
steven.taylor@panamaum.org
Candy Scarem, Director of Student Ministries
candy.scarem@panamaum.org
Debbie Johnson, Ministry Coordinator/Admin. Asst.
debbie.johnson@panamaum.org
Julie Nagel, Music Director/Accompanist
Krista Odell, Accompanist
Jody Marsh, Parish Nurse
Jon Cable, Custodian

Pastor Steve's Office Hours
9:00am - Noon: M, W and Th

Church Phone (716) 782-4031
Church Fax # (716) 782-2326
Church E-mail – contact@panamaum.org
Church website - www.panamaum.org
www.facebook.com/panamaum

**Please check the calendar
inside for weekly
meetings and activities
for the month of July.**

**Cornerstone District Office
Christ First UMC
663 Lakeview Ave.
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 665-2423**



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Church website - www.panamaum.org
www.facebook.com/panamaum**