

Circuit Rider

Saybrook United Methodist Church

"People trying to live like Jesus"

7900 S. Depot Rd., Ashtabula, OH 44004

Website: www.saybrookumc.com

Phone: (440)969-1562

Parsonage: (440)969-1242



E-mail: saybrookumc1@gmail.com

August 2020 Volume 20 Issue 8



...And we continue in this strange time when most of what we know as "normal" is now different. Daily I get a couple of devotionals in my email, although for most of them I am not quite sure how they got started. I probably googled something and these popped up as suggestions. I then liked that first one, and signed up..... a happy coincidence, because for the most part they are good, and help me to get my day started.

Right now I am focusing on a site called iBelieve.com and am following an article titled "30 Day Prayer Challenge for Stress and Anxiety"*. The article begins: *This past year has been one of the most rapidly changing, chaotic periods many of us have ever experienced. When life's uncertainties threaten to steal our inner calm, may we draw close to the Prince of Peace, and may His peace, which surpasses understanding, sink deep into our souls, expelling our inner angst. This 30-day anti-anxiety prayer challenge will fasten our hearts in Christ and His unshakable, never-changing truths—promises strong enough to carry us through our greatest difficulties. Make the prayers below your own, whether that means saying every word or using each day's focus as a prompt.*

I am on day 8, and this mornings reading was:

Day 8: Help me recognize what's false.

"Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long." (Psalm 25:5)

My fears are so deceptive, God. They tell me the problems in front of me are greater than the God that dwells within me, stands beside me, and surrounds me. They trick me into believing a virus or health concern has authority over life and

death, when I know that power solely belongs to You. My anxiety says my financial security lies in the job market, my paycheck, or my savings account, instead of the God who always provides. I know You remain sovereign over all, but sometimes, I forget. Unfortunately, there are days when I give more authority to the noise all around me than the steady and faithful voice of my God within. I need Your help. Close my ears, Lord, to everything contradictory to You. May Your voice ring the loudest, for I know You always speak truth. Your words always lead to peace and increased freedom.

I needed to hear that this morning.... in the midst of internet and parking lot worship, in this age of "social distancing". In a day where, when people are in the hospital or nursing home or even in their homes, we still need to keep our distance. I see people getting "edgy" and many becoming short tempered (in my neighborhood and, according to reports, all across the nation). We are a people of community, and yet are warned to keep a safe distance. The baseball season has begun, yet there are no fans (and today I heard of a team where a good number of players / staff are now infected). Thankfully now at SUMC we are somewhat able to gather in our parking lot for worship on Sunday and Wednesday, and just yesterday we finally finished our 2020 Lenten study, but we all know that it still isn't quite the same... no handshakes- no hugs. And to be truthful, my favorite part of the Sunday service is when you all are leaving.... and as I direct traffic I get to see you a little up close and share little with you.... and pray personally with you. Things are not the same.... and then I get the message about recognizing what's false. There is a lot of falsehoods going on these days. There are twisted truths and going ons throughout the world... in the news, in our neighborhoods.... and now the political season, with all of it's trash talking is about (has already) begun. The other day I was speaking with Betty in the office and said that I noticed that day a lot more "signs" were going up, and I shuttered for I know along with the signs comes the political rhetoric . With all of this I think back to Rodney King's statement in 1992... can't we all just get along?

And then it flares up *"My fears are so deceptive, God. They tell me the problems in front of me are greater than the God that dwells within me, stands beside me, and surrounds me. They trick me into believing a virus or health concern has authority over life and death, when I know that power solely belongs to You... My anxiety says my financial security lies in the job market, my paycheck, or my savings account, instead of the God who always provides.*

My prayer for each of us is from Psalm 25:5 *“Guide me **in Your truth** and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long.*

Peace,
Jeff

*30 Day Prayer Challenge *article written by:* Jennifer Slattery, a writer and speaker who hosts the Faith Over Fear podcast. She’s addressed women’s groups, Bible studies, and writers across the nation. She’s the author of Building a Family and numerous other titles and maintains a devotional blog at JenniferSlatteryLivesOutLoud.com.

A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR OWN JIMMY FULLER!
I call Jimmy our own, but really he is every where spreading the Love and the Good News of God with his Knowledge and Music!
We are fortunate to have him perform on Wednesday nights here at the church at 6:00pm.

We call it our **WOW service and of course this stands for **Worship On Wednesday!** Everyone is welcome.**

Bring your Lawn Chair or Sit in your Car.

You don’t have to dress up, just come as you are.

Jimmy also performs every Friday night at the parking lot of the Park Street Christian Church in Geneva at 6:00pm.

“³⁸ Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” Mark 1:38

**A Wise Man Once Told Me That Freedom Comes With A Price
Please Wear Your Mask to Protect Yourself and Others.**

Will things ever be normal?

Good news...! We will again be collecting **school supplies** for the Ashtabula Schools: but before you run to the store, we have to wait for specific needs. Right now, they need **pencil boxes (size 6x8)**, so each student can keep their supplies safely contained plus **glue sticks and 24 packs of Crayons**, These will be given to each student whether they are in the school building or being home schooled. As soon as we are notified of more needs you will be called with the information. Donations can be dropped off at the church, or call Kathy Feiler or Judy Richards to arrange for a pick-up. If anyone has concerns about going out, monetary donations will be gratefully accepted.

There have also been discussions about the **Christmas Family Project** and how we will safely proceed with this program. More information will be coming soon, **but we will not be collecting any clothing this year**. With our new “normal”, we can rejoice that God continues to bless us by calling us to serve Him. Through the school supplies, Christmas Families and Samaritan Purse projects we are reaching out to our community and the world to show the **love** ❤️ of Christ.



Because of the COVID 19 virus this year, we cannot make up the Shoe Boxes for Operation **Christmas Child** at this time, but we are taking monetary donations.

A **Big Thank You** to all that have given so far.

If anything changes about the shoe boxes you will be notified, but please give what you can and keep the Samaritan Purse Operation **Christmas Child** in prayer.



As a local United Methodist Congregation we promise to honor God with:

Our Prayers

Our Churches, Our Shut Ins, Our Military, Our College Students,
Our Pastor & Family, Missionaries, Dee Ann Rich, Ethan & Ashley Batschelet,
Ed & Linda Gray, Richard Clugh, Don & Mary Clugh Family,
MaryLee Verdi & Family, River, Betty Hansen, Carol Loudermilk,
Richard & Grace Arnold, Jim & Phyllis Wright, Mary Simmons,
Dean & Patty Moore, Lloyd Richards, Sharon Youngberg & Family,
Joseph & Carolyn Wayand, Roy & Earline Stiltner, Howard Hewitt,
Erik Pimentel, Jim & Bobbi Brindley, Kurt Brindley, Eva DeCamillo,
Rev. Scott Walsh, Roy Stiltner II, Donna Juras, Larry & Dixie Liggett,
Bruce & Sue DeRidder, Art & Debbie Scott, Chuck & Janette Davis, Caroline,
Lori Leibbrandt, Betty Harting, Eddie & Linda Dana, Heather Long,
Sherry & Ken Livingston, Marilyn Lundquist, Rona, Rev. Doug Lewis, Patrick Estrada,
Sandy Connley, Sarrah Brown, Ben, Mary Hamilton, Mark & Family, Juli, Rita,
Mary Lewis, Stoneman Family, Susie Jones, Jim Wright, Judy,
John & Laura Morgan, Edie Warren, Harold & Lou Buck, Janet Renard,
Korey Stoneman, Larry Pontinen, Cathy Morgan, Mat Sobolewski, Sandy Mead,
Rick Arnold, Erik & Heather Peterson, Keith Davidson, Linda, Brenda MacNaughton,
Diane, Betty, Bob Brizo, Jackie McKee, Mark DiBell, Kurtis McLain, Earline Stiltner,
Vikie, Edgar Bradley, Alex Gonzalez, Joel, Nellie, Brent, Aiden, Alex & Family, Glen,
Heather, Noah, Shelly, Chuck, Ralph, Brett Bunnell, Mary Ann Gage, Jud Palmer,
Dave, Mel & Family, Shawn Cunningham, The Fifer Family, Lori Gardner, Jerri Shultz
Patrick Zoblefin



<i>Our Gifts</i>	<i>Stewardship Update</i>
	<u>Year to Date (June 30th)</u>
Offerings & Income	\$89,087.35
Expenses	<u>\$-86,580.20</u>
	\$ 2,507.15



and Our Witness

Some Thoughts from Betty

The **definition** of a **gossip** is someone who reveals personal information about others. A friend who passes on the secrets of other friends, but asks you not to tell is an example of a **gossip**. **Gossip** is **defined** as the private information about others shared in conversation or print.

Similar words are tattle tale, whispers, stories or tales.

The Ninth Commandment:

“**Thou shalt not bear false witness**” forbids: “1. Speaking **falsely** in any matter, lying, equivocating, and any way devising and designing to deceive our **neighbor**. ... Speaking unjustly **against** our **neighbor**, to the prejudice of his reputation; and (which involves the guilty of both).

Looks like the word Gossip and the Ninth Commandment have something in common.

Let’s break it down into a few common words—Passes on secrets, Private information. Speaking falsely about someone. Speaking unjustly. Can hurt a persons reputation.

Yes! We have all gossiped or had bear false witness. Unless you are free of sin we all have done this one time or another in our lives. It might have been in passing, in a group setting or one on one. But in reality we have. No it’s not good and we should all strive not too.

It’s nice to have someone you can confide in, but I have learned you can’t confide in most people so you really do have to be careful in what you say. I am not exempt from this in anyway and you aren’t either. To me sin is black and white, either it is or it’s not. But gossip is a slippery slope. You might honestly think you are speaking of a problem about someone and hoping to see things a bit clearer or even fix the problem. But then someone else might not see it that way. I guess God know what’s in your heart and that is what really matters. But you and I should both be aware of hurt or judgments you might pass on others by your words.

We all need to cling to the 10 Commandments at all times in our walk with God.

I would like you to look this up, I typed in The Book of Discipline Gossip and this is what came up. *Book of Discipline* 2000, ¶103, p. 73

Leading by Not Doing: A Reflection on Wesley's Instruction to "Do No Harm"
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/leading-by-not-doing-a-reflection-on-wesleys-instruction-to-do-no-harm>

I can't put it all in the Newsletter, but I did put in the Conclusion.

Conclusion:

Ultimately, the work of "doing no harm" is about "doing something" — modeling a way of being Christian in the world. Our behaviors carry as much impact as our words, if not more. How we treat one another is a significant act of leadership.

We wish our world to be a better place — a kinder, gentler world where decency, kindness, and consideration are the norm. Building such a reality is not simply about doing good things, but also about refraining from those things that harm, that reduce, that destroy. Nothing is lost to us when we refrain from gossip. We are not made better by putting other people down. We are not made stronger when we react to rumor as if it were true. Being disrespectful doesn't make us superior to anyone. And hiding our true feelings and allowing resentment to build cannot help but hurt us as well as others.

The less we engage in activities with the potential to do harm, the more we will be freed to engage in activities that build up. As leaders, we have the opportunity to point the way to a better way of living, of sharing, and of being the body of Christ.

Now this talks about Leaders, and if we are Christians, we are leaders. We are trying to lead people to Christ so we have to be diligent and not fall down the slippery slope.



Slippery Slope Fallacy

Definition

This logical fallacy occurs when someone argues, without providing adequate evidence, that a certain action or proposition will lead to an undesirable outcome via a series of events.

FALLACYINLOGIC.COM

Bible Lessons About Gossip

[Ephesians 4:29](#): Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

[Leviticus 19:16](#): Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbor; I am the LORD.

[Matthew 7:1](#): Judge not, that ye be not judged.

[Matthew 7:12](#): Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

[Proverbs 11:13](#): A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

[Proverbs 18:8](#): The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

[Proverbs 26:20](#): Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

[Romans 2:1](#): Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

[Timothy 1:13](#): And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not



This
Month's
 Anniversaries
 & Birthdays

1 Hunter Loudermilk
1 Korey Stoneman
1 Jeff & Sue Nelson
2 Celeste Wagner
3 Pat Souine
5 Paul Miklos
8 Virginia Harris
9 Delilah Butler
10 Hunter Stiltner
10 Emilee Williams
11 Ed Gray
11 Bill Swanson
12 Ken & Myrna Osten
16 Scott Solomon

17 Serenity Schaade
18 Norma Lambert
19 Carol Hammond
19 Mary Lee Verdi
20 Audrey Loudermilk
21 Larry & Kimberly Stoneman
21 Trish Stanford
23 Mary Platt
23 Michael & Joanne Prickett
23 Beth Sassa
23 Tabitha Garrod
24 Karen Keesler
25 Brian MacNaughton
26 Cheryl McLaren
31 Kathy Ring



el Sembrador

Since 1954



July 2020
66 Hundred for 66 Years

You're Invited to a Special birthday celebration!

This year El Sembrador celebrates 66 years of ministry. 66 years of investing in and transforming the lives of youth in Honduras. We are thankful for all of God's Blessings during these 66 years. We pray for many more successful years of ministry ahead.

Our birthday party looks and feels very different this year as the students are away from campus due to the quarantine. They are studying online from home to finish out the 2020 school year. Therefore, this year to celebrate our anniversary, our campus Pastor, Ethan Batschelet, is spearheading a campaign to raise \$6,600. \$100 for each year of our existence as a ministry. The plan is to celebrate El Sembrador's anniversary by giving back to our community.



We have a long-standing partnership with PREDISAN, a Christian non-profit Medical Organization who manages a large clinic serving Catacamas and our surrounding communities. They are responsible for coordinating much of our region's response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

We are thankful for the ways in which they, for many years, have supported El Sembrador. They treat our students and staff during times of illness and injury. While El Sembrador may not have the medical expertise of our brother ministry. We can still do our part! We want to provide them with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for their doctors to use in the ongoing fight against the virus.

As we mentioned, our goal is \$100 dollars for each of our 66 years, 66 Hundred for 66 Years. Would you prayerfully consider a gift of any size towards this cause? If you feel led to participate, please send your tax-deductible donation to World Gospel Mission with a note in the memo line - El Sembrador Clinic. With this money, the doctors and nurses in El Sembrador's area will be well equipped to continue to face this virus.

You can mail your donation to World Gospel Mission; PO Box 948; Marion, IN 46952-0948. Please indicate El Sembrador Clinic in the memo line. Or you can give online at www.wgm.org/project/community-clinic

This year, as a ministry we were unable to celebrate our anniversary in our traditional way, but we can still celebrate with all of you and with our ministry partners by pulling together and blessings our brother organization as they take care of us and our community!

Thank you for all you do in support of El Sembrador and lives in Honduras.

August 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 8:30am Men's Group
2 9:30am Parking Lot Worship Service	3	4 6:00pm AD Council Meeting	5 9am 12pm 3pm Taize Service 6:00pm WOW	6	7	8
9 9:30am Parking Lot Worship Service	10	11	12 9am 12pm 3pm Taize Service 6:00pm WOW	13	14	15 8:30am Men's Group
16 9:30am Parking Lot Worship Service	17	18	19 9am 12pm 3pm Taize Service 6:00pm WOW	20	21	22
23 9:30am Parking Lot Worship Service	24	25	26 9am 12pm 3pm Taize Service 6:00pm WOW	27	28	29
30 9:30am Parking Lot Worship Service	31		Every Wednesday Communion Available from 9:00-5:30pm in the Sanctuary			