

Footprints

South District United Methodist Women E-News

President: Erin Fly

June 2020

Editor: Alice Brown



From your South District President

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Hello Sisters,



I hope you are all staying safe and as healthy as possible. During this difficult time it is unfortunate that our country has erupted with frustration and anger after the terrible death of George Floyd. This was a spark to a burning frustration following many wrongful deaths.

The freedom to assemble to express frustrations is part of our first amendment rights. While vandalism and looting are unquestionably criminal acts, it is important to take a minute to try and understand the frustration that has led to these protests. Everyone is absolutely entitled to their feelings about these events but there are some things to keep in mind. A friend who is a pastor has spent a time to gather resources to help educate the community about racism and the environment that helps it linger.

bit.ly/ANTIRACISMRESOURCES

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From your Treasurer

Hello everyone, I hope you are all well and maintaining good health practices.

Like everything else the Pledges are slow in coming in. But when you cannot meet as a board or group it is difficult to make decisions about monetary items. We still have more than half a year left to attempt to return to our past practices.

Audits for your units are due to me by June 30, 2020. I have received a few but I am sure this item was an easy one to slip everyone's mind. Please forward to me by email or snail mail, both listed below.

God bless and stay safe and watch over others.

Patsy June, treasurer
South District United Methodist Women
542 West Parkwood Court
Green Valley, AZ 85614
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From Your South District President

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While reading social media it is important to remember that all lives matter – the murder of a white man by a black man does not make the death of a black man by a white man any less important. Both men mattered to their family, friends, and community, and both men who committed the murders are equally responsible. Also, not everyone who shows up to join a protest is set on destruction and violence. They are seeking fellowship with people who share their viewpoint and frustration.

Watching these events unfold can seem overwhelming and leave us asking what we can do. As United Methodist Women we can continue our work to learn about and change the school to prison pipeline. Also, our reading program has an excellent selection, “Nobody Cries When We Die” by Patrick B. Reyes.

In regards to our district’s activities, we are still planning to hold our District and Annual Celebrations this coming October if things have resolved enough for us to gather. If your unit of circle has any questions about how to continue your work during this time please reach out to myself or our district team member.

God Bless & Stay Safe,
Erin Fly, president



From your Leadership Team

South District United Methodist Women still needs help filling the following leadership positions:

Vice President of Programming
Chair, Committee of Nominations
& at least 4 additional members
Social Action Coordinator
Educating Members for Mission Coordinator
Communication Coordinator



Please search your heart and pray about this. It's really difficult to operate a district with these key positions vacant.

Current Leadership Team

Erin Fly, president-575-635-3330
Clara Campbell, secretary-520-297-6669
Patsy June, treasurer-520-444-1364
Christine Maglott, spiritual growth coordinator-520-393-7427
Alice Brown, communications coordinator-520-297-6972
Pam Down, member of committee on nominations-616-648-0521

From your Spiritual Growth Coordinator

(This is a great article by Reverend Tyler Edwards of No. Carolina. His ministry is dedicated to helping Christians GROW. **This is Part 2 of 3.** Part 1 was in the last newsletter.)

Ten Ways to Know You're Maturing Spiritually

Tyler Edwards

1. YOU'RE LEARNING MORE ABOUT GOD

When you love something, you get to know it. Imagine being married and not knowing basic facts about your spouse. Not only is that ill-advised for household bliss, it's an indication of a lack of love. When we don't know Jesus, don't know His gospel, don't grow in it, that is indicative of the fact that our love for Him is either non-existent or at best superficial and immature.

2. YOU'RE DIGGING INTO DEEPER THEOLOGY

Just as a child's diet changes as she matures, so does the baby Christian's. To borrow the metaphor we see in 1 Peter 2, we start off on the "milk" of basic truths about God and his work; the expectation is that we grow. Anyone who's been a Christian for some time should be able to 'chew' on more advanced concepts. A foundation should be built upon in order to grow.

3. YOU'RE NOT WAITING ON OTHERS TO FEED YOU

Too many Christians want to be spoon fed by a pastor telling them what to think, what to read, and so on. That's not good enough for growing Christians. You absolutely should seek out a church with sound theology and Gospel-centered preaching that challenges you. But anyone who's been a Christian for more than a year should be able, at least partially, to *feed themselves*.

4. YOU'RE LEARNING AND TEACHING

Notice that the expectation of Scripture is, in time, all Christians should be teachers: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). It's not necessary that we all stand up and preach at church, it's that anyone who has been a Christian for a reasonable duration of time should be able not only to understand the Word of God, but also to teach it to others.

Teaching the Gospel is a biblical expectation for all Christians. The gift of teaching is not for all, but the *ability to relay, share and help others grow on a micro level is for all of us*.

5. YOU'RE GROWING IN GRACE

Peter tells us that we should be growing in grace. This is to share the heart of God. Not to desire justice or retribution for those who wrong us *but for our lives to be characterized by grace*. Our default response should **not** be anger or bitterness but forgiveness and grace. Even when people don't deserve it. Because that's what grace is - undeserved.

Watch for Part 3 of this article, showing the last 5 ways to know you are maturing in your faith.

Excerpted from "What Does Spiritual Growth Actually Look Like?"

by Tyler Edwards



Christine Maglott, spiritual growth coordinator

2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- March 23,** Annual Legacy Day of Giving
March 30, Census due to National
April 17-19 Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial-**Postponed**
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Tempe
May 3, Tea Party-**Cancelled**
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
August 21,22, Mission u South District-**Cancelled**
Catalina United Methodist Church
Sept. 11-13 Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Tempe
October 10, South District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting
Sanctuary UMC
October 23, Conference United Methodist Women
Officer rehearsal
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
October 24, Conference United Methodist Women Annual Celebration
St. Paul's United Methodist Church



**THE LEGACY FUND
ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN**



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PHOENIX AREA
P.O. BOX 32830
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85064



A prayer from Bishop Bob. He has asked us to pray this prayer each day.

Please join Bishop Bob in praying this prayer daily.

God, our Creator, in these times of incredible anxiety and challenge, we offer a prayer that is not related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a prayer about another pandemic that has been a scourge on our human family for centuries. We pray for the end of violence and racism that persists and now threatens to envelope us in the evil of hatred and the sin of violence against other humans.

Forgive us when we have allowed ourselves to be teased into believing that this sin is no longer. Help us to realize that we have not yet achieved what you have proclaimed, that all persons are created by you and loved by you. Give us the courage to speak and act for justice for all. We pray especially for our sisters and brothers of color and in the memory of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and countless others. Amen.

Praying and acting for justice,

Bishop Bob

