

JUNE 2014

THE WATERING CAN

The following is a message from your new shepherd, Rev. Kevin Bradley. I asked Bro. Kevin to introduce himself to you as a reminder that our belief is not that one pastor's time ends and another's begins. Our belief is that the work God began here in 1875 continues under the leadership of a new pastor. Every day is a new opportunity to serve God in new and exciting ways. I invite you to serve God by opening your arms wide to embrace Bro. Kevin and his family and to open your hearts wide to tell him, "You lead as the Lord directs and we will follow your direction." Grace and peace to you.

I greet you with the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. I also express my excitement as the time quickly approaches for our shared ministry together. I give thanks for the privilege of serving Caswell Springs. I truly believe that this is the place that God has called me and my family to be.

It is often customary to write a brief biography as the time nears for a new appointment. It is a good way for you to get to learn a bit about the new pastor. My name is Kevin Bradley. I am a second career minister, having practiced law for twenty years prior to entering ministry. I have a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and also have a Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi. Prior to this appointment, I have served Rosedale and Big Point United Methodist Churches in north Jackson County. I have also served at Trinity United Methodist Church in Gulfport. I am currently serving St. Paul United Methodist Church in Ocean Springs. I am married to Jaye Bradley, who is the Senior Chancery Court Judge in Jackson, George and Greene counties. We have two children. Our daughter Caroline graduates high school this year and will be attending USM in the fall. Our son Brooks is a rising high school senior. Of course this brief biographical sketch can never substitute for truly getting to know one another through time spent together. I look forward to hearing each of your stories as we begin this next chapter of life together at Caswell Springs and as we continue the great work and incredible ministry that has been done throughout the life of this church.

As I began this message with the words of grace and peace, so let me end. I love those words – grace and peace. Have you ever noticed that Paul begins so many of his letters with those words? In so doing, I think Paul reminds the reader that God's grace and peace is always with us in our lives and living. How comforting it is to know that God's grace and peace is there for each of us. As this time of transition takes place in the days, weeks and months ahead, my prayer is that God's grace and peace be with each of you.

Kevin



Romans 1:8

... I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you ...

Ruth 1:8

... May the Lord reward you for your kindness ...

His Way Ministry

His Way gang will take a summer break. May 27th was our last delivery. We want to thank everyone who has been so faithful in supporting us. It is through the Grace of God this ministry has been allowed to continue. Please be in prayer for direction

for His Way Ministry and those we deliver to. Thank you from -

Avis Cumbest, Jessie Davis, Lavern & Frank Balcer, Myrna Shepherd, Leon & Joyce Hammond, Lane Hoggard, Joyce O'Brien, Linda Cumbest, Les Pierce, W.L. & Nancy

Jones, Barbara Hutchens, Ellen Griffin, Ellie Wierson, Mary Fisher, Jr. & Butch Porter.

His Way thanks Brian Scott, H.W. Parker and Daniel Banke for supporting us with their prayers throughout this ministry.

There's a "Fun"draiser Coming in August.

This fundraiser will benefit the Choir, His Way Ministry and the Youth. We are looking for talent to participate in a talent show. Your talent can be singing, dancing, playing an instrument, singing with karaoke or CD.

We want to attract talent from inside and outside our Church. We

would like this to be a community event similar to last year's fundraiser.

If you or someone you know wants to participate, please contact Daniel Banke, Ellie Wierson or Rhonda Parker. If you want to help with the fundraiser please attend the June

2nd kick off meeting to be held in the Church dining room at 6:30 p.m. A meal is planned for attendees and family. If you plan on attending, please contact Joyce O'Brien.



June 22-25, 2014 6-8:30 pm

Paul was willing to risk everything he had--everything he was--to share the Good News of Jesus' love, resurrection, and offer of salvation. He endured unbelievable dangers and hardship but he never quit. He never gave up! With God's help, Paul and his friends were able to spread the Good News about Jesus to a world that so desperately

needed to hear it, one much like ours.

VBS preparation is in full swing! We are gearing up and preparing for a fantastic week! We are still collecting the plastic rings from can and sports drink packs (intact please). We would also love to have any old baskets you no longer have a need for.

***If you have not already done so please fill out the registration and/or volunteer form in the bulletin or contact Crystal Long or Wendy Hadley before your favorite spot fills up. We need everything from preschool teachers to behind the scenes help. Thank you for your help and support in one of our favorite times of the year!

Children's Sunday School

In the coming weeks we will begin a unit on the Good Samaritan. The story of the Good Samaritan is so familiar to us that we may not grasp how startling it must have been to those who heard Jesus tell it. The lawyer who tested Jesus found himself thwarted as Jesus forced him to answer his own question. The lawyer's response was a question that always

generated controversy in his society. In asking "who is my neighbor?" he challenged Jesus to define the limits of the neighborliness required by law.

Jesus challenged the stereotype of Samaritans and redefined what it meant to be a neighbor. This story continues to challenge stereotypes and redefine our understanding of the neighbor.



As we explore the story of the Good Samaritan we will answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?" Through the Good Samaritan, Jesus teaches us to love God and other people. When we follow Jesus' teachings, we show God's love to other people, whether they live close to us or far away. We will experience being a good neighbor through our mission project highlighted below.

Children's Sunday School Mission Project

We will be collecting food items and diapers for a local family in need who has a child with health problems. We will only be collecting for a few more weeks so we need the items to come in rather quickly. Please send the following type.

canned vegetables and fruit cups

Ravioli and SpaghettiO's (microwave cups and/or regular cans)

peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese (microwave cups and/or regular boxes)

pasta sauce, pasta noodles, and hamburger helper

lunchbox items (pudding cups, individually wrapped snacks, pb crackers, cheese crackers, etc.)

***We also need gift cards to Wal-Mart, Dollar General, local grocery stores, etc. for

fresh items like milk, bread, eggs, meat. Diapers in size 4 (Huggies) would be greatly appreciated!

As always, thank you for your generosity and willingness to help!



Keep watch for announcements as we are planning some fun summer activities for our children!



Music and Worship Arts

Spirit, Lead Me...

On Tuesday evening of our Revival last month, Shelby Hinkel offered up the song “Oceans” as part of our focus on faith. For those who are unfamiliar with the thought-provoking text of the song, there are a few particularly striking lyrics that I want to share with you:

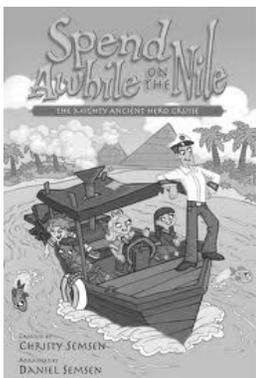


*Spirit, lead me where my trust is without borders;
Let me walk upon the waters, wherever You would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander,
And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior.*

Hopefully you were also struck by the words of a song entitled “Build Your Kingdom Here” that Savannah Buras sang in worship recently, especially the words “Holy Spirit, come, invade us now.” How often do we think of the Holy Spirit being capable of invading us? How often do we ask the Holy Spirit to lead us where our trust in God is without borders? As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost Sunday in morning worship on June 8, I pray that we will all be reminded of the opportunity we have to work for God’s Kingdom through the power of the Holy Spirit. When our children “invade” the sanctuary with red ribbons that morning, signifying the image of the tongues of fire from Acts 2, discern what gifts you can use for the church.

Thank You!

Before we head into summer, I want to publicly thank a number of people who helped our music ministry to be so vibrant over the past couple of months. Thank you to Beth Marble and Rena Danley for going above and beyond the call of duty on piano, particularly during Holy Week and Revival services. Having already begun summer break from children’s choirs, I want to thank all of the volunteers who put in numerous hours of time, sharing their gifts with our children. Speaking of choirs, thank you to the members of our ever-vibrant Sanctuary Choir for their efforts during Holy Week, including my wife for guest conducting! Thank you to numerous soloists who have shared their gifts. I know our 8:30 folks are always particularly grateful for your efforts! And lastly, I want to thank Rev. Brian Scott for his support of my area of the church’s ministry. He will be missed, and I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.



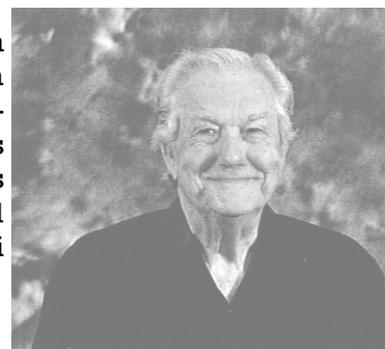
Music Camp Timeline

If your child is participating in Music Camp this summer, here are a few important upcoming dates to keep on the calendar:

- June 1: Preview Day (5:30 – 7:00)
- June 8: Audition Day #1 (5:00 – 6:00)
- June 11: Audition Day #2 (5:00 – 6:00)
- June 29: Registration Closes
- July 7-11: Music Camp!

Missions and Evangelism Feature

Our June featured member is Mr. Benjamin Taylor Howell. Mr. Ben was born in rural George County at the home of his parents, George and Melna (McLemore) Howell on August 4, 1937. One brother, Winston (now deceased), and two sisters, Rita (Carmel) and Rachel (Walley), completed his family. Mr. Ben graduated from Agricola School where he attended grades one through twelve. He served in the Mississippi and Alabama National Guard for ten years, and then graduated from the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) in 1964 with a degree in Chemical Engineering.



Along the way Mr. Ben asked a young lady by the name of Elinor J. Gerred to be his wife, and she agreed, becoming Mrs. Benjamin Taylor Howell on November 24, 1960. Through the years, their family grew with the birth of three sons: James (Patty), Jeffery, and Jonathan. Grandchildren came in the form of two boys named Dustin and Ben (Emily) and the Howells increased by three great-grand sons and one great-grand daughter with one more of unknown gender on the way in the near future. Those of us who know him are aware that Mr. Ben is a very intelligent man, but probably few of us know that he is the one who figured out the chemical equation that put the “puff” in the Cheese Puffs for the Frito Lay Company where he worked for several years. In addition to working at the Frito Lay Company, he also worked for Auburn University in the Animal Nutrition Department, at Mississippi Chemical (18 years), and at Huntington Ingalls (28 years). He is preparing to retire from Huntington Ingalls on the 31st of July, 2014, but Patty (his daughter-in-law and right hand helper) is not so sure that he is looking forward to retirement. He enjoys his work, but some health issues are making it a little difficult for him right now.

Just as he has been committed to his employment and served faithfully for many years, Mr. Ben has worked for our Lord at Caswell Springs UM Church with that same commitment; having served on the PPR Committee, the Board of Trustees, the Administrative Board, and on both the Education Committee and the Fair Booth Committee. He has greeted countless people who entered the doors of the church as he ushered them in the sanctuary or welcomed them to Sunday School as the Superintendent for multitudinous years (at least twenty), having first started out assisting Mr. Hillard Cumbest.

Mrs. Billie Smith was still in high school when she met Mr. Ben and holds him and the memories from those early years close in her heart. She and Doug lived just down the road from Mr. Ben and Mrs. Elinor for quite a few years and helped each other raise their children. In 1975, when Stacy was born and became sick, Mr. Ben and Mrs. Elinor were a great help. Mrs. Billie looks to Mr. Ben as a spiritual leader and has depended on his wisdom as long as she can remember. She observed his faithfulness to the Lord and his commitment to the church and has used that for a guide in her own life.

Without a doubt there are multitudes of people whose lives have been guided for good by Mr. Ben in some way and who are grateful that they have been able to call him friend and I am one of them. The Mr. Ben I know is a gentle and caring man who deeply loves our God and his family and is committed to both of them. My impression is that Mr. Ben is a quiet and humble man, with a big smile, who reflects God's love to others. He is an interesting conversationalist who has lots of life stories to share. When you see him, be sure to ask him about his experience with either a lemon meringue pie or a binky for a dog. They are both good stories for a laugh or two. Mr. Ben, you are in our prayers, and thank you. Always remember, you are loved.

Birthdays

1 Meghan Hadley	9 Maxine Davis	17 Deryke Cumbest	26 Keith Carter
1 Harold Morris	9 Linda Cumbest	18 Kara Goff	27 Lydia Scott
1 Oliver Harris	10 Alex Cumbest	18 Jo Ann Jenkins	27 Kristi Richards
1 Shanda Jones	12 Philip Howard	18 Royce Cumbest	28 Heath Seymour
2 Matt Poore	12 Noah Scott	19 Sylvia Goff	29 Claire Banke
3 Eloise Jackson	12 Gracie Taylor	21 Lonnie Adkison	30 Sarah Barton
3 Katie Richardson	13 Darrell Cumbest	21 Sharla Holder	30 Dina Hawkins
3 Junior Porter	13 Steven Shirley	21 Carol Messer	30 Skylar Cumbest
3 Marley Walker	14 Rachel Noland	21 William Brindza	
5 Chris Fisher	14 Rustin Porter	22 Bobby D. Kennedy	
6 Ida Mae Cumbest	14 Jessie Davis	22 Kelvin Goff	
6 Allen Pedersen	15 Melissa Davis	23 Hollis Porter	
7 Joan Smith	16 Tonya Buxton	24 Michelle Goff	
7 Tammy Lacy	16 Joshua Jones	25 Dianne Goff	
8 H.W. Parker	16 Kelton Shirley	25 Jacob Brockway	
9 Frank Balcer	17 Norman Cupit	25 Felica Carr	
9 Joseph Cumbest	17 Rusty Rawls	26 Richie Diamond	

Anniversaries

2 Terry & Sharon Jackson	9 Larry & Mary Murphy	15 Frankie & Lou Havard
3 Heath & Heather Seymour	9 Ron & Kay Stephenson	16 Wayne & Janelle Parker
4 Gabe & Brandi Krebs	11 Jack & Levonda Hamilton	17 Stacy & Deanna Smith
6 James & Ginny Gerrish	12 Wayne & Chris Watkins	22 Jerald & Jean Goff
7 Bengie & Kara Goff	13 Myrl & Dianne Goff	24 George & Alma Stewart
8 Kevin & Penny Dearman	13 Mike & Felica Carr	29 Jamie & Tonya Buxton
8 Brian & Charity Scott	14 Darryl & Melissa Davis	30 Randy & Tammy Adams



Bridal Shower

You are cordially invited to a Bridal Shower for Ashton Dearman Sunday, June 8, 2:00 p.m. at Caswell Springs Family Life Center.

Ashton & Brian are registered at Target & Bed, Bath, & Beyond

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 5:30p Music camp preview day	2	3	4 5:30p supper	5 6p Trustees Mtg.	6	7
8 3p Bridal shower for Ashton Dearman 3:30 p SPRC Meeting 4:30p Admin Board Mtg. 5p Audition day for music camp	9	10	11 5p Audition day for musical 5:30p supper	12	13	14 2p Shower Kayla Sandel
15 Father's Day	16	17	18 5:30p supper	19	20	21 10a Jr. Miss
22 5p Bible school	23 5p Bible school	24 5p Bible school	25 5p Bible school	26	27	28 2p Brittney Allen Wedding
29 12p church fundraiser	30					

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Congratulations to our 2014 Graduates!

We wish you the best in all your future endeavors. Three of our youth were awarded with scholarships this year. Katie Freeman received the \$500.00 Bunnie Scholls scholarship. Kyle Paulk received the \$250.00 Merry Methodist scholarship. Noah Scott received the \$250.00 Caswell Springs scholarship. We are so proud of you all!

We have lots of fun things planned for the summer time so if you are an upcoming 7th grader you are invited to join us on Sunday nights starting June 15th. We will be going swimming, and bowling and some other fun things for you can get to know the group. Wishing everyone a blessed summer!



From left to right Kyle Paulk, Noah Scott, Gabe Krebs, Brandi Krebs, Katie Freeman, Mark Bakotic, and Joseph Cumbest.