

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

2015 MISSIONAL FOCUS CALENDAR: February – July

<p>February residential support/training for intellectually-disabled adults Regional HEART HAVENS</p>	<p>March feeding people caring for the land Regional FEEDMORE and a community farm</p>	<p>April OPEN</p>
<p>May project(s) TBD disaster relief National/Global CONFERENCE OFFERING and Kits (UMCOR)</p>	<p>June emergency shelter Local CARITAS</p>	<p>July school supplying Local JOHN B. CARY & FOX ELEMENTARY</p>

The fruits of last Saturday's discussion are reflected above. Thank-you participants! Note that our CARITAS guests will not be on site in June; we will be preparing to host. Regarding the Annual Conference Offering, Bishop Young Jin Cho will announce the initiative and the goal before May.

Boulevard United Methodist Church



“A marvelous aspect of Jesus' baptism is its reminder that he is not only our Lord but also our brother. He was baptized, just as we are. He shares in our humanity.”

Stephen Hultgren

January 11, 2015

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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT I

INTRODUCTION

A deacon or pastor addresses the congregation:

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation

and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through the reaffirmation of our faith,

we renew the covenant declared at our baptism,

acknowledge what God is doing for us,

and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy Church.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

All may stand.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God:

When nothing existed but chaos,

you swept across the dark waters

and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah

you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,

you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan

to the land which you promised.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,

nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection

and to make disciples of all nations.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,

to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,

to wash away their sin

and clothe them in righteousness

throughout their lives,

that, dying and being raised with Christ,

they may share in his final victory.

All praise to you, Almighty God! Amen.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Here water may be used as the deacon or pastor says:

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

With the placing of hands on each person reaffirming faith:

Name, the Holy Spirit work within you,

that having been born through water and the Spirit,

you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION:

The pastor addresses candidates:

As members of Christ's universal Church,

will you be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church,

and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

As members of this congregation,

will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers,

your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

I will.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

The pastor addresses the congregation:

Members of the household of God,

I commend these persons to your love and care.

The congregation responds:

As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation, we renew our covenant to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness; that in everything God may be glorified.

The choir offers *Come By Here*, a sung blessing.

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Mark 1:4-11

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”