



The Epistle

St. Paul's - Markham United Methodist Churches

June 2012 Edition

Tom Morgan, Pastor

A Different Kind of Arithmetic

Please allow me to share some parting thoughts with you since this is my last newsletter as your pastor. We have walked a great path together since that Sunday in January of 2001. It has been an honor to walk beside you on this faith journey.

We have smiles, cried, grown angry, loved, been loved, got frustrated, laughed at our mistakes and celebrated our successes. But yet through it all we have been workers for and in the "Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven." It has been your steadfast drive forward that has sustained Judy and me through all of these years. Oh, I know some of you wish you had done more, some wish I had done more. But all of us need to keep one goal in mind – to serve the LORD and worship God.

The following is from "*Cotton Patch Parables of Liberation*":

"God doesn't go by the kind of arithmetic that you and I go by. God has never learned to deal in fractions. God didn't get that far in school. I think he's like a father who had ten children and many a time one might have thought, "Well, my goodness, with a family this big, Daddy can't love any one of us very much. Any one of us can only claim one tenth of his love." But this father loved us with all of his love. It's just that way with love. There is no fraction in it. You can't break it up into pieces. And God wants the whole human race. He just can't deal in fractions."

And so Jesus is saying to these people who were griping and mumbling and grumbling about the fact that he was taking in all kinds of people, bums and drunks and the poor folks and everybody, he was saying, "Well, I just can't help it. God just has a sentimental attachment for his people. And, whether you like it or not, God loves 'em, and it does seem to me that if they're precious in God's sight, they ought to be precious in yours, too.'"

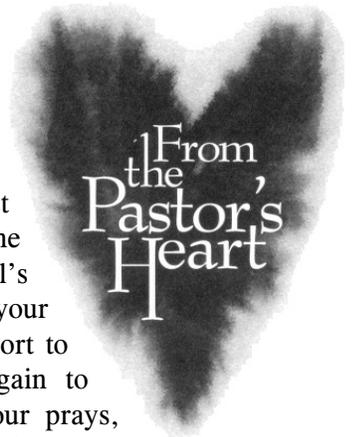
That's the way it has been the past eleven and one-half years – we have loved all those who have come through the doors, we have accepted those who are different, those who don't look like us, those who don't act like us, those who don't react like us and those who don't talk like us. We have shared something very special with you.

But the really exciting thing is still the journey ahead.

Under new pastoral leadership, I believe the best days are ahead for the Markham and St. Paul's churches. Please offer your unconditional love and support to the new pastor. Decide again to support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

God has richly blessed Judy and me in our ministry with you. Your love has sustained us in our service. We treasure your prayers and well wishes for a blessed retirement. Be assured that our love for each of you is without fractions. Our prayers for you will never cease.

Peace and Grace,
Tom



Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Tom and Judy

On June 10th, immediately following church services, there will be a covered dish luncheon for Pastor Tom and Judy. This will be their last Sunday with us.

There will be barbeque brisket, sausage and potatoes provided, as well as a cake. Please bring a side dish to go with the barbeque.

Be sure and make plans to stay after church on Sunday, June 10th, so that we can show our love and gratitude to Pastor Tom and Judy for eleven and a half years of service to our churches. Pass the word to all members so we can give them a good send off.

A Father's Love

In all that you do, a dad's love plays a part.
There's always a place for him deep in your heart.
And each year that passes, you're even more glad.
More grateful and proud just to call him your dad!

— Author unknown

Christian Men's Meetings



The Christian Men's meetings have been very interesting so far. We have found some very good cooks. There still is strong interest in the group meetings. Pastor Tom was our cook for the May meeting.

We are trying to keep the meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. All Christian men are always welcome.

Help Wanted

There is a need for a person who wishes to participate with the Member Care Committee.

WANTED — a person who is willing to chair and coordinate the bereavement meals where there is a death among the members of our church. The only qualification would be that this person would be willing to contact various members of the church and put together a meal either before or after a funeral service. The person who is willing to take on this task would be contacted by the Chair of Member Care and would be given the information regarding the who, where and when of the meal.

If you are interested in doing this very important task for the church, please contact the church office at 245-2390 or contact Sharon Skelly at 245-5158.

Graduate Luncheon Set for June 3rd

On June 3rd, immediately after morning services at St. Paul's, there will be a graduate luncheon honoring all 2012 graduates. The UMW honors the graduates every year with a covered dish luncheon. Everyone is invited, so make plans to stay after church and help to honor our graduating seniors.

A NOTE OF



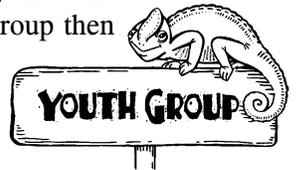
04/10/12

Dear Friends at St. Paul's,
Thank you for the continued prayers and words of encouragement. The plant is beautiful that you sent. I am getting stronger every day and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Frankie Baros

St. Paul's Youth Group

The Youth Group meets every Sunday evening at 6:00 P.M. for activities that everyone wants to be involved in. The Youth Group then goes into a worship service at 7:00 P.M. We would like to encourage everyone, including the adults, to participate in the Sunday evening worship. Last, but definitely not least, at 8:00 P.M., a snack is provided with fellowship while everyone says their goodbyes until the next week. The age for this group is for youth that are between 6th and 12th grade.



There are a lot of events planned for the youth coming up between now and into the summer months. Beginning with a car wash to raise money for fun things like Schlitterbahn and canoe races during the summer. There will additionally be a lock-in to help kick off the new school year.

The leaders of the group all love the youth and feel that God is really making Himself known to them. All youth are encouraged to come and check out the Youth Group on Sunday night. God bless you all!

Mission Committee Report

Traditionally the first Sunday of the month is Communion in the United Methodist Church.



It is also Special Sunday mission giving through the altar rail offering or through special envelopes contained in your Sunday bulletin.

In June the Special Sunday offering will be for Peace with Justice Sunday. The Just Peace League, a United Methodist ministry in the Philippines where half the population live in depressed rural areas is mobilizing youth and adults to help poor, neglected farmers and their families seek justice, economic survival and, of course, peace. Please give generously on Communion Sunday, June 3rd.

It is also when we ask our church family to provide food goods to the Food Pantry. Recently we had 15 people looking for help with food in one day. If you are blessed to fill your cart up in the grocery store, please add a little more and share God's grace. Thanks!

"More marriages might survive if the partners realized that sometimes the better comes after the worse."

— Doug Larson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2012</h1>						
3 12:15 pm Graduate Luncheon	4 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5 11:00 AM Women's Emmaus at St. Paul's	6 6:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC	7 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Pastor's Bible Study	8 7:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC 8:00 AM Women's Emmaus, FUMC 10:00 AM Bible Study	9
10	11 6:30 pm Choir Practice	12 11:00 AM Women's Emmaus at St. Paul's 6:30 PM Trustees	13 6:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC	14 10:00 AM Bible Study	15 7:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC 8:00 AM Women's Emmaus, FUMC 10:00 AM Bible Study	16
17 	18 6:30 pm Choir Practice	19 11:00 AM Women's Emmaus at St. Paul's 6:30 pm Finance 6:30 pm Ad Council	20 6:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC	21 10:00 AM Bible Study	22 7:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC 8:00 AM Women's Emmaus, FUMC 10:00 AM Bible Study	23
24	25 6:30 pm Choir Practice	26 11:00 AM Women's Emmaus at St. Paul's 6:30 PM Christian Men's Group, St. Paul's	27 6:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC	28 10:00 AM Bible Study	29 7:00 AM Men's Emmaus, FUMC 8:00 AM Women's Emmaus, FUMC 10:00 AM Bible Study	30

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

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Secret Sisters

A friendly reminder to those who are participating in the Secret Sisters program. You need to:

- 1) Lift up your Sister in prayer
- 2) Remember her on her birthday and anniversary.
- 3) Surprise her with a monthly gift.

To all of those who are participating, keep up the good work.

Red Hat Angels

Did you know that St. Paul's sponsors a Red Hat Society group? Originally started by Kathy Jones, it is "fun and fellowship over 50 (years)" for women. You may have seen the colorful red hats, purple clothes and lots of dress-up bling anywhere in town. We get together for four (4) events a month, all optional – a breakfast, field trip, fun night and luncheons. We love winning door prizes and playing games of all kinds.

Membership is open to all women, although under 50 years have to wear pink hats and lavender clothes till they can graduate and are presented with their first red hat. For more information and the latest calendar of events see or call Tricia Reynolds, 323-9077.

Special Dates

- Trinity Sunday, June 3, 2012
- Flag Day, June 14, 2012
- Father's Day, June 17, 2012
- First Day of Summer, June 20, 2012

"Sweet" CARD

Make this Father's Day card using some of your dad's favorite candy.



What you need:

- Wrapped candy or candy bars
- Poster board or large piece of cardboard
- Markers
- Clear tape

What you do:

1. With an adult, purchase a variety of candy.
2. Using poster board and markers, create a poem or letter for your dad. Include the candy name(s) in your message. For a Snickers bar, you can write, "I love to snicker at your jokes!" For an Almond Joy, you can write, "Wishing you lots of joy this Father's Day!"
3. Tape the candy to your giant card and present it to your dad on Father's Day.