

CHRONICLER

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

www.evangelicalucc-cape.org

JULY 2008

Treasure In Jars of Clay—Part 2

Dear Friends,

A brief recap: I recently completed a one-year Pastoral Care Specialist training program at Care and Counseling in St. Louis. At the completion of the program, the instructor asked us pastors to write a brief paper describing our core spiritual beliefs. I thought it would be useful to share an edited version of my paper with you. I hope these reflections are a testimony to God's continuing power to shape my life, feelings, and ideas. As Paul said, "We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."

In Christian Love,
—Pastor Dan

Continued from last month . . .

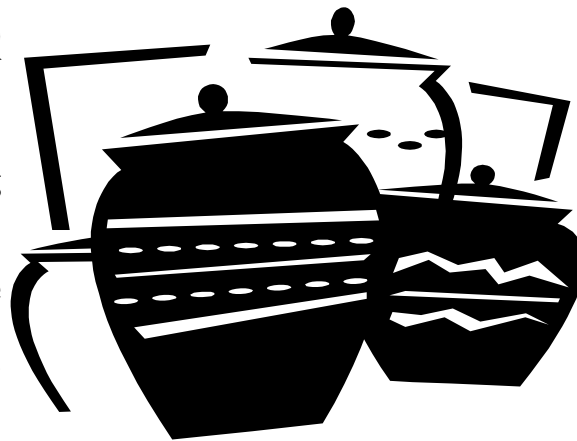
Good and Evil

God is good and the Trinity enables us to experience the full range of goodness, both in stillness and in activity. God in his goodness created a world where thinking beings are free to make choices. Since they are free to choose what is good, God's will for them, they are also free to

choose to go against that will, to choose evil. The core of evil is rebellion against God. Because all creation reflects God's goodness, evil must assert its choice by destroying what God creates. Evil pretends to be creative, but all it can create are lies, wounding and distorting what God has made.

What I would call natural evil reflects the suffering inherent in being part of a fallen world. By our nature, we will break God's Laws and commit sins of gluttony, lust, sloth, greed, wrath, envy, and pride. We all have a sinful nature, although we may deny it, stuff it into the dark corners of our mind, or project it on other people. We must recognize and acknowledge our sin nature before the Spirit can transform it and make it part of our "born from above" self.

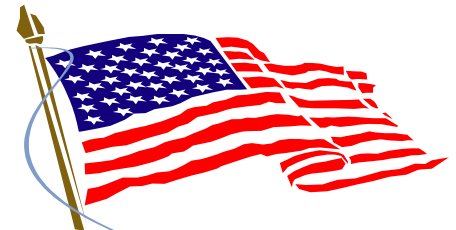
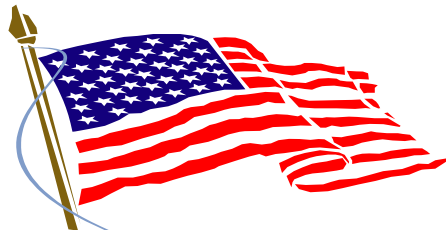
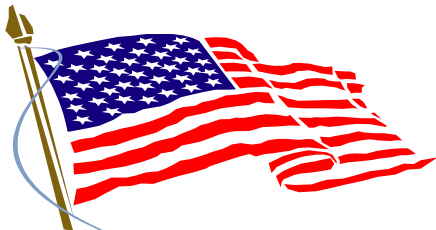
However, there is another kind of evil in the world, an active force that has been at work long before the human race was created. Our Adversary must have been a very ancient and powerful being. The Adversary is formidable because he tempts us to do good without God. The temptation of Jesus after his 40 days in the desert illustrates the work of the Adversary quite clearly. The Adversary tempts us to material, political, and spiritual power. This is evil on a massive scale, the evil



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2 Corinthians 4:7

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Continued from Page 1

of the killing fields, concentration camps, and ethnic cleansing. The only defenses against this evil are to increase our awareness of its influence on us and to strengthen the Church, so that people will refuse to join death marches to earthly utopias.

Spiritual Community

The Christian faith can only be realized through the Church, the community of saints, whose head is Christ. The gifts of creation, the scriptures, and the Holy Spirit were all made to this community, not to individuals. God, through the Holy Spirit, imparts individuals with spiritual gifts, but only for the benefit of the community. The Good News can only be received by sharing it. Faith without deeds of love withers and dies.

Just as God is the center of my being, my social life needs to be centered on my faith community. It is in this community that I can live out my call to ministry and mission. Sunday morning needs to be a focused experience of communal worship, incorporating Bible study, preaching, the Holy Communion, offering tithes, music, and prayer.

However, it is sometimes a struggle to maintain awareness of being part of a faith community during the week. I sometimes feel overwhelmed by the time and energy demanded by my second vocation, performing mental health assessments at Bootheel Counseling Service in Sikeston. I struggle with the disciplines of praying for my congregation and of setting aside enough time and energy to visit and pray with congregation members in need during the week. Reaching out beyond my particular congregation to connect with the Church universal through dialogue and prayer with other Christians is even more difficult to fit into my schedule on a regular basis. However, I believe that to grow as a Christian, I need to broaden my loving dialogue with other Christians who can teach, challenge, and nurture me.

To Be Continued . . .

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Special Congregational Meeting

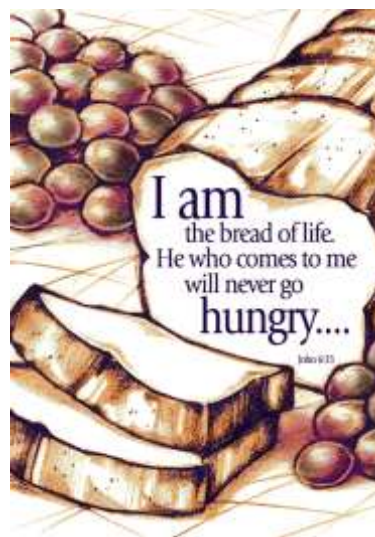
A Special Congregational Meeting has been called for on Sunday, July 13, immediately following the worship service. The *only topic for discussion* at this meeting will be the Secretary's salary & hours.

Quarterly Congregational Meeting

The Quarterly Congregational Meeting has been moved back one week so our Church Council President can be present. Please adjust your calendars as needed. Sunday, August 3rd will be the date for our Quarterly Congregational Meeting.

—The Church Council

C.R.O.P. Sale & Luncheon



The 39th Annual Church Women United C.R.O.P. Sale and Luncheon will be Friday, July 18th 2008 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Join us at Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 North Ellis, Cape Girardeau, MO. Come early & enjoy war cinnamon rolls & coffee! The luncheon hours are 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, with chicken

pasta salad, fresh baked bread, dessert & drink for a donation of \$5.00 and carry outs are available.



Mary– Martha News

The Mary Martha Circle will meet on Thursday, July 3rd at 1:30 PM. Jobyna Daume will have devotions. Jobyna Daume and Ramona Brinkopf will be our hostesses for the afternoon. Please come and share the afternoon with all of us. We are sure to have a wonderful time together.



Meals On Wheels

Our Church will be responsible for 7 drivers and **7 persons to be “runners” for the week of August 25-29th.** We will need to be at Southeast Missouri Hospital by 10:45 each morning to pick up the meals. If you can furnish and drive a car or **be the “runner” please contact Bob & Velma Roloff at 335-3867** who are the coordinators for our church.

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, July 8th at 7:00 PM. Clodine Metje will have devotions, Lisa Elfrink & Kaye Lee will be our hostesses for the evening and Verla Sailer will be here to share her recent trip with us. It is sure to



be an enjoyable evening. Everyone is invited to attend and share in the fun.

ASAP

Mark your calendar on Sunday, July 13th for that is the date of our annual trip to the Farmington Water Park. We will leave after church is over.

Lunch will be on your own and the fee for the afternoon is \$6.50 for adults [11 & older]. Feel free to



come home on your own schedule. Just make sure to bring sunscreen, towels & blankets for ground cover. There is a reasonably priced concession stand

Union of Concerned Christians



We will not have a meeting in July and August. We do hope to make Apple Butter in September. There should be apples if we get the rain that the apples need. If you have any extra pint jars we would appreciate your donation. Just bring the jars to the Church or **call the Roloff's at 335-3867, the Metje's at 334-**

2160 or the Sailer's at 334-2050 and we will have them picked up.

—Bob & Velma Roloff, Co-Chairman
—Tom Schild, Treasurer

Memorials



With Deepest Sympathy

Memorial Fund

In Memory of Betty Metcalfe
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Mehrle
 Mr. & Mrs. Loyd Bollinger
 James & Marilyn Garner
 Shirley Harrison
 Bob & Velma Roloff
 Freeman & Shirley Sebastian
 Carl Train
 Mike Seib
 Cathy Lange
 Jim & Rosezitta Moyers
 Larry & Sandie Glueck
 Gary & Clodine Metje
 Robert Meyer

Betty's Bridge Club

Barbara Calvin

In Memory of Ruby Doughty
 Vic Graden

Mike Daume
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Mehrle

Memorial-General Fund

In Memory of Ruby Doughty
 Helen Owens

In Memory of Betty Metcalfe
 S.G. & Grace Coy
 Leonard & Lillian Graden
 Daren Morrill
 Bob & Virginia Dolle
 Irene Amos
 Louis Geldmacher
 Helen Owens

Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Ruby Doughty
 Paul & Marilyn Propst

Council Financial Report

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Beginning Check Book | Balance 5-1-08 | \$30,044.73 |
| Deposits | May | \$7,677.00 |
| | Interest | \$0.25 |
| Total Deposits for January | | \$7,677.25 |
| Distributions | May | \$6,325.33 |
| Ending Check Book | Balance 5-31-08 | \$31,396.65 |
| <hr/> | | |
| A.G. Edwards {Memorial Fund} | Balance 5-1-08 | \$11,201.36 |
| | Interest | \$17.76 |
| | Deposits | --- |
| | Disbursements | \$376.90 |
| Ending Balance | { Pastor's Robe } As of 5-31-08 | \$10,842.22 |
| <hr/> | | |
| Check Book Balance | As of 6-13-08 | \$32,308.47 |

Prayer List & Friends at Home

Prayer List

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. * indicates a new request.
Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.

- Leo Amelunke; 09-07
- Marilyn Amelunke; 05-08
- Linda Anderson; 05-08
- *Michael Bodine; 06-08
- Loyd Bollinger
- *Ian Bolton; 06-08
- S.G. Coy
- Family of Reece Dgson; 03-08
- Michael “Benji” Doerhoff; 06-08**
- Lexi Edwards; 05-08
- Joan Hope
- Mary Huckstep
- Carol Huebert; 02-08
- Jed & Jon Jones; 05-08
- Ernest & Ida Mae Jordan
- *Mary Ann Jordan; 06-08
- Tyler Lalumondiere—Iraq; 04-08
- Kenny Mehrle
- *Bill McMillian; 06-08
- Ester Nussbaum
- Cheryl Olson; 01-08
- [Mary Huckstep’s granddaughter]**
- Helen Owens
- Sharon Reif; 03-08
- Kaylyn Sneathen; 06-08
- Aieral Steffens; 05-08
- *Karen Steffens; 06-08
- Bonnie Stricker; 04-08
- Andrea Truitt; 11-07
- Evelyn Warrick; 04-08

Friends at Home

- Ratliff Nursing Home
 717 N. Sprigg Street
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Polly Wilmsmeyer

- Fountainbleau Lodge
 2001 N. Kingshighway
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

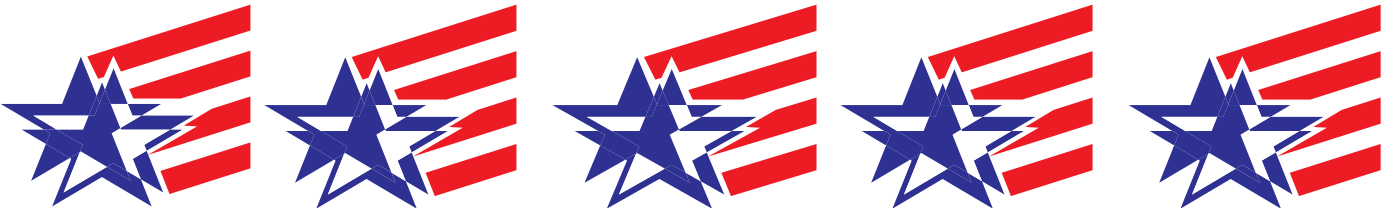
Alta Proffer

- Lutheran Home
 2825 Bloomfield Road
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Dorothy Cole
 *Viola Geiser
 Frank Maevers, Sr.
 Leonard Moore
 Andora Peetz

- Home Bound
 Irene Orlando
 327 N. Frederick
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Helen Owens
 2237 West Cape Rock Drive
 Cape Girardeau, MO 63701



Evangelical United Church of Christ
33 South Ellis Street
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63703-6201

Pastor Dan Johnson
Church Phone: 573-335-5611
Church e-mail: eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net
Church Web Site: evangelicalucc-cape.org

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST



**Meal-a-Month
for FISH**

Canned Tamales
Refried, Kidney, Pinto Beans
Enchilada, Fajita, Taco Mixes
Corn Bread & Muffin Mixes
Macaroni & Cheese
Cold or Hot Cereal
Canned Fruit

Thank You!

Directory Update

Please make these changes in your church directory.

'Doc' Matthews phone #334-6620

Kenneth & Bettie Mehrle
3148 Park Place
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Phone #

Thank You

I would like to send a heart felt thanks for all the visitors, cards and phone calls that I received while in the hospital and at the Lutheran Home.

In Christian Love,
Helen Owens

LOVE, INC.

Grace's Kids Closet is in need of packages of new underwear and socks for both boys and girls, ranging from youth size 4T through adult sizes for teens. Donations can be dropped off at Grace United Methodist Church and left inside the door closest to the parking lot. There summer hours are 9 am-12 pm M-F and 1 pm-4 pm M-R.

Thanks for your support of this Love INC partner ministry!