

OAKWOOD
United Methodist Church



MAY 2015

CONNECT - DISCIPLE - SERVE

*I will bless you...so that you will
be a blessing. Genesis 12:2*

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**SEND PRAYER
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"Proverbs: Principles that Empower"

by Pastor Richard Boatman

Almost a thousand years before Christ, the book of Proverbs was written to teach empowering principles of leadership and lifestyles to Jewish young people as the nation of Israel moved from a tribal to imperial government. I once spoke to a Jewish rabbi who told me of the intentionality of their congregation's families to strongly encourage their children to choose high level professions—doctors, lawyers, businessmen, etc. This mindset is in part what accounts for a people group that is less than 1% of the world's population wielding such inordinate influence. It is, if you will, a manifestation of the intent of Proverbs. The study of this book compels people to live life well, to be shaped by the wisdom it offers in areas such as communication, relationships, attitude, managing of situations, work ethic, finances and generosity.

As a primary part of its teaching, Proverbs holds in tension two polar opposites: wisdom and foolishness—knowledge and naiveté—two paths that bring life or death, freedom or bondage. The path that liberates is the very Way of which Jesus will later speak in John 14:6. Indeed, as Proverbs personifies wisdom, we recognize that Jesus is the manifestation of the Wisdom of God empowering us to live well. In all circumstances, in every situation, Jesus is our wisdom, our ability to be fruitful regardless our surroundings. (1 Corinthians 1:30)

"The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and instruction...(1:1-2). The word "Proverb" refers to a short value statement intended to form our thinking and our lifestyles. Similar to the Confucian *Analects* which were designed to shape Chinese culture from "womb to tomb," so Proverbs is a collection of wisdom sayings that function as a rule of life, a rule or standard by which we live. The Greek and Latin root for the word "rule" is where we get our word "trellis." In the 6th century the "Rule of Saint Benedict" became a foundational approach for living the Christian life. In this context a rule is not some dry, legal ordinance we must keep. Rather, a rule is a "trellis," a structure or center around which our life is lived. Like vines, our lives express individual creativity and can move in different directions, but within the boundaries of the trellis, the rule. Our "trellis" is the Word and Spirit—it is "Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Corinthians 1:24).

Wisdom is a Hebrew word that means "the skillful use of knowledge." So wisdom of Proverbs equips us to use information well. We might say that knowledge is input; wisdom is output. Knowledge is information; wisdom is formation. In Matthew 7 Jesus compared the wise man with the foolish man. The difference was hearing and "doing" vs. just hearing. The wise man had output. He put into action the knowledge or information he had heard.

A person can have a large vocabulary, but still not be able to communicate. Someone may have a desire to connect with others relationally but have no idea how to go about it. There was a man I once knew who was quite knowledgeable, but never knew when to be quiet. People avoided being cornered by him. He talked about himself all the time. He never learned the art of developing relationships by showing interest in others, by asking questions about their lives. He had knowledge but not wisdom. He didn't know how to skillfully use the information he had. A young person may have mastery over mathematics and excel in the sciences. That's knowledge. But that same student might go off to college with a new credit card and rack up thousands of dollars in unnecessary expenses, debt that he/she will have to pay off for years to come. That's a lack of wisdom. Another student may have average academic ability but superior wisdom. He/she will tend to outperform in the whole of life the one who is superior in knowledge. You see, Wisdom is a person—Jesus. And Jesus maximizes the gifts he places in us.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:
8:30 & 10:45**

Christian Learning Time for all ages – 9:45 am

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
Need a Mid-Week Spiritual Recharge?**

Wednesday Night Meal: 5:30 pm

Worship for Adults: 6:30 pm

**“Under the Oak” Youth Group (Jr/Sr High):
6:30-9:15 pm**

Adult Small Groups: 7:05-8:00 pm

Childcare available from 6:20-8:00 pm

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

7:45am – 9:00am

**Oakwood United Methodist MEN
meet on Saturdays in the Fireside Room.**

Men of all ages are welcome!



**OAKWOOD PARABLE
PROJECT
SCHOLARSHIP**

The Oakwood Parable Project Scholarship was started in 2009 when the Congregation was given a challenge “How can one person & \$100 make a difference in our community and our world?” 50 - \$100 bills were distributed that day.

Being led by the Holy Spirit, I accepted this challenge; and the Oakwood Parable Scholarship was birthed. The goal of this Scholarship/Ministry is to reach out to students who have overcome a significant challenge in order to complete high school and now want to continue in their education – for those who, despite their struggles “didn’t give up!”

The Oakwood Parable Scholarship has been blessed with many donations over the last 5 years and many students have received scholarships that wouldn’t have otherwise gotten any help. Thank you, Oakwood!

The time is near again, to award another scholarship. So I am asking you as part of Oakwood, to please pray about whether you would like to contribute to this on-going ministry; and if you would like to make a donation, please write in the memo line: Oakwood Parable Scholarship. Thank You again for your support and prayers for these students!!!! Cindy Anderson

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

Please join us on Wednesday nights for a light family meal at 5:30 pm. The cost is \$1 per person, 3-year olds and younger are free, with a maximum of \$5 per family. We could use a few hands to help with cleanup, so if you are willing to give a hand at the end, that would be much appreciated.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

It takes a team of volunteers to make the Wednesday night meals run smoothly all year, having said that, we need more volunteers for next year. Wednesday night meals run from September through May, serving begins at 5:30 and clean up can begin at 6:30. Each set of volunteers or team is asked to cook, serve and clean up **just one Wednesday per month**. Right now there are 2 Wednesdays NOT covered. You are not asked to pay for the food; the church will cover or reimburse you if desired. If you or your small group would be willing to help (just one Wednesday a month), please let the office know ASAP.



PARENT GRIEF GROUP meets on the first Monday of every month at Oakwood in the Prayer Room to assist parents and others dealing with the loss of a child. If you are a parent, sibling, grandparent, or someone dealing with loss of a young person, please know you are welcome to join this group. This is a loving group of people on the same journey, experiencing the support of a faith community. If you have questions, or want to know more, please contact Pastor Mike.

**SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY IS
MAY 31st**

We will be honoring our high school and college graduates on **Senior Recognition Sunday, May 31st**. We are collecting baby pictures and senior pictures for each graduate. You may e-mail pictures to Kris Benge at kris-benge@gmail.com or drop them off in the church office. Original photos will be returned. If you have a few candid photos of this year's class as youngsters, we would love to include those as well.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

MEGAN DEPPE

**THE 2015 DENNIS CAMERON MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT!**

Compassion PRESENTS



FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

**Oakwood United Methodist Church
400 NE 56th St. Pleasant Hill**

Tickets \$15: <http://www.itickets.com/events/339631>

Call Kris at 515-707-1549 for more information



RE/MAX Real Estate Group



TAE KWON DO

In the Family Life Center, Mondays & Thursdays, 6:30-7:30
Tiny Tigers, ages 4-6, 5:50-6:30
See Mr. Mark Bassett for questions.



Thank you to everyone for your prayers, concerns and cards after my recent surgery. I am recovering well. Dick Delk

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser a HUGE SUCCESS! A special thank you to Pat & Charley Dyer, Ted Dyer, Steve & Sharon Messer! With everyone's help, we raised \$7500 for camp scholarships and Vacation Bible School!

AND We collected \$1582 in the Heifer ARKS for Heifer International—Way to go **OAKWOOD!**



Start your day off with connecting with God by “centering” yourself in silent prayer. We meet on **Thursday mornings in the Prayer Room at 8:00 a.m.** For more information, call Judy Proksa at 266-1054, or just join us. Anyone is welcome.

CLASSICS (50+ group) – meet the 2nd Thursday of the month. The next meeting/pot luck will be on Thursday, May 14. Everyone who is available is invited, singles or couples. Please bring a dish to share with about 12 to 15 people, and arrive a little before noon so the food can be organized for self-serve. Please join us if you can. We would love to see you there.

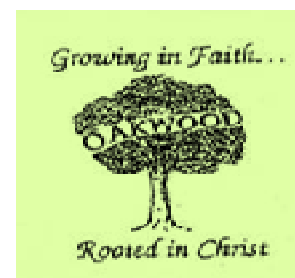
OUR SIGN OUT FRONT

Did you notice that our Oakwood sign was missing? Several weeks ago it was taken out for a total 'makeover.' We are glad to welcome back the new and improved refurbished sign!

Mission Opportunities

Mark Your Calendars! Oakwood United Methodist Church 25th Anniversary Celebration

Worship: Sunday, May 17th at 8:30 am or 10:45 am
Reception: Sunday, May 17th at 9:45 am
Tree Planting: Wednesday Worship, May 20th at 6:30 pm



Praise God! It has been 25 years since Oakwood's charter Sunday! On that Sunday, 69 people chose Oakwood as their church home. Since then, God has continued to do amazing things! To mark the 25th anniversary, two special celebrations and a "love offering" opportunity are planned. We hope you can be with us to mark this important date in the church's history!

Event #1: Join us for worship on Sunday, May 17th at either 8:30 am or 10:45 am. The morning's worship services and reception (in between services) will focus on what the Lord has enabled us to do and to praise Him for what is yet to come.

Event #2: You are welcome to worship with us on Wednesday, May 20th at 6:30 pm for a special tree planting service. This service will be reminiscent of the oak tree planting service we had the year we purchased the land for the church building.

Love Offering: To mark this milestone in the church's history, we have started a "Doors for the Lord's House" fundraiser. With a goal of raising \$10,000, the money will be used to replace the doors at the back entrance of the church. If you would like to make a contribution, you may do so on either of the dates noted above or by sending a check made payable to Oakwood United Methodist Church, marked "doors". May God continue to bless all those who have or will come and go through Oakwood's doors!

If you have questions, please contact us at 515-262-6007. Thank you and God Bless.

The 25th Anniversary Committee: Cheryl Egger, Lory Rieger, Pat Harvey, Kris Bengel, Gary Schwartz, Kelly Swinton, and Nancy Berggren



RECEPTION FOR MIKE



Please join us in the Family Life Center for a card shower and farewell reception on June 21st at 9:40am to pray over, wish well, and send off Pastor Mike Fillmore and his family as they begin a new journey with God in Montezuma.



UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES:

An ALL CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY is scheduled for May 20th! With spring comes lots of ways to get involved! We need some volunteers to help spruce up the gardens and also to do a little spring cleaning inside.

OAKWOOD KIDS

(Pre- school through 6th Grade)

Connect – Disciple – Serve...in a FUN kind of way!

SUNDAY MORNINGS:

Who: Pre-school - 6th grade

CLT: 9:45-10:30

(Christian Learning Time)



VBS theme for 2015:

**Everest: Conquering
Challenges with God's Mighty
Power!**

VBS is just around the corner!

July 26-30th

Pre-school – 4th grades

Cost: FREE

If you are interested in planning or volunteering in any way, please talk with Tania or Larae; sign ups begin May 10th.

We will have a donation list soon, please consider donating items so we can continue offering VBS to children at no cost.

**VBS registrations will be open
May 10th!**

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 10: VBS Signups Start

MAY 17: Last CLT Class

MAY 20: Last 24/7 Class
(Pizza for supper at 5:30pm)



Camp registrations have begun! So don't delay, camps are filling up fast. If you want to take advantage of the Oakwood scholarships, please make sure you communicate with Cyndi Wilson to be eligible.

In addition to camps at Wesley Woods, check out Adventure Camp which will be held at Wesley Woods the last week in July. There is a link on the Oakwood website on the Children's page to register.

A special thank you...

...to our amazing leaders and everyone else who helps keep our CLT and 24/7 groups up and running. Your commitment, energy, and time is never forgotten. We cannot say Thank You enough! It was another wonderful year!



Thank you so much for all of your contributions, time, service, and support for 4th Annual Spaghetti Supper & Auction Fund-raiser this year!

What a great turn out and fun night. The money raised will help kids go to camp and help off-set VBS, continuing to make VBS a FREE event for all our kids (& friends) to attend!

ARKS

Thank you so much for your participation in the Heifer Project Arks! You have helped us raise \$1582! This money will purchase animals which will help communities in third world countries become self sufficient, and end world hunger. We will announce what the CLT Kids have voted on soon. Thank you!

Find us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OakwoodUMCKids>

If you have a thought or concern we can be reached by email:
Larae Boatman:
larae@oakwoodlife.org
Tania Bentley:
Tania@oakwoodlife.org



CLT

(Christian Learning Time)

9:45—10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

(UnderTheOak Youth Group)

Middle School: 6:30-8:00 High School 7:45 – 9:15

A NOTE FROM NICK: Here at Oakwood we have been blessed with some amazing volunteers that give their time and their talents to this youth program. We have leaders from high school aged, to college and above that do an amazing job. I want to thank all who have been involved this year. Without you we would not be able to fellowship with, minister to, and have fun along with all the students that fill our youth wing on Wednesday nights. Being a volunteer in a youth program takes time, patience, love and understanding and all of our leaders have given more than asked for this year! I encourage you to take a moment to thank a youth leader on Wednesday nights. Thank them for their willingness to meet youth where they are and walk with them in Christ!

MAY SCHEDULE

May 6: UndertheOak @ (Middle School: 6:30-8:00 High School 7:45 – 9:05)

May 13: UndertheOak @ (Middle School: 6:30-8:00 High School 7:45 – 9:05)

May 20: **NO** UNDERTHEOAK (All church spring clean up)

May 27: UndertheOak @ (Combined service 6:30-8:00, Critical Mass end of year party)

OUR SERMON SERIES THIS MONTH IS....! This month we will be studying a series called “Catching Fire”. We will be looking at how words can affect how we live and how we appear to others within our lives. Sometimes we can fall into an old routine and lose sight of how we are supposed to be living. There are times when we need to reignite the flame in our hearts and live in a more pronounced way for Christ. We will be looking at how we can jump start our excitement in Jesus and how to respond when other notice it!

Year End Celebration

MAY CRITICAL MASS EVENT! On May 27th we will be having our UndertheOak end of the year blow out! We have lots of awesome things in the works for both our middle school and high school kids! We will be combining this event into one for both middle school and high school! We will start the fun at 6:30 pm and get down around 8:00 pm! You will not want your youth to miss this fun evening!!



LOOK WHATS COMING UP IN JUNE! Summer time is right around the corner! Even though it's the summer months UndertheOak will still be meeting every other Wednesday! We will be meeting together as a whole youth group, Middle school through High school from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm! We will be starting this schedule on June 10th! Be sure to check the newsletter for dates and special events that we will be having for our youth!

WORSHIP LEADERS - BLENDED SERVICE (8:30 – 1st Service)

| Date | Ushers | Greeters | Scripture | Fellowship |
|--------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| May 3 | Curry | JK Luce / Swinton | L Cutler | Zimmer / Slings / Bloomquist |
| May 10 | Delk | Schwartz / SM Anderson | M Bassett | Shellabarger / Wright |
| May 17 | Heuermann | Gilmore / Curry | D Wehrman | Anniversary Celebration |
| May 24 | McComas | Farber / Forest | S Gilmore | Dyer / Bailey |
| May 31 | Scott | Cutler / Carico | O Current | Swinton / McComas |

WORSHIP LEADERS - CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (10:45 – 2nd Service)

| Date | Ushers | Greeters | Fellowship |
|--------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| May 3 | Ayersman | Gilmore / Brightwell | J Johnson / Kiproop |
| May 10 | Needed | Vitek / CS Anderson | Benge Small Group |
| May 17 | Benge | RB Allen / Gilmore | Anniversary Celebration |
| May 24 | Needed | Stone / Needed | CS Anderson / Bittner |
| May 31 | Ayersman | Gilmore / Needed | Needed |

May 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | 1 <i>START A FIRE CONCERT</i> | 2 |
| 3 Communion Sunday / Holy Land Q&A @9:45 | 4 TKD Choir, 6:30 | 5 | 6 Wed Worship | 7 National Day of Prayer | 8 | 9 |
| 10 <i>MOTHER'S DAY</i> | 11 TKD Choir, 6:30 | 12 Ad Board, 7:00 | 13 Supper Club Wed Worship | 14 Classics, noon | 15 <i>Newsletter Due</i> | 16 FLC Reserved |
| 17 Oakwood's 25th Anniversary Celebration | 18 TKD Choir, 6:30 | 19 | 20 Spring Clean Up | 21 | 22 | 23 FLC Reserved |
| 24 | 25 Memorial Day Office Closed TKD Choir, 6:30 | 26 | 27 Wed Worship | 28 | 29 Wedding Rehearsal | 30 Wedding |
| 31 Senior Recognition Day | | | | | | |



*Birthdays
of the Month*

MAY:

1– Jyll Johnson, Leo Waterhouse,
Dan Bittner
2– Alex Carlson, Jason Colbert, Graham
Luce
3– Kelly Nowels, Nancy Wells
4– Cookie Hood
5– Bonita Diamond, Kaylee Smith
7– Owen Andersen, Bob Bullard,
Morgan Clark
8– Sue Logan, Claire Peterson
9– Tania Bentley
12– Judy Proksa
13– Graedy Edwards
14– Lori Chappell, Austin Cory
15– Steve Jurgens, David Robison,
Jacob Swinton
16– Alex Stewart
17– Scott Baysinger, London Luce,
MaKayla Longren, Rebecca Bruce,
Brian Crow
18– Becky Louk, Keely Rieger,
Joe Wedum
19– Kirstin Koestler

20– Alecia Cory, Carolyn Reben
21– Billi Formaro, Lisa Messer
23– Edward Jones, Jill McCrea,
Sandi Stone, Eleanor Bruce
24– Amy Kumagai
25– Kristina Meyer, Lacy Alger,
Noah Peterson
26– Wally Brotherson, Olivia
Elrod, Mark Deppe, Chad Welch
27– Abby Bentley, Scott Potte-
baum
28– Kyler Hall, Jordan Lang,
David Pinkerton
30– Carolyn Burke,
Sherry Swinton
31– Jamie Boggs, Megan Deppe,
Roger Peterson



ANNIVERSARIES

2– Nichole & Mark Anderson
5– Laura & Glenn Anspach
Jessica & Luke Meredith
10– Pat & Charley Dyer
14– Carolyn & Denis Burke
16– Jyll & Chris Johnson
17– Jamie & Gade Edwards
Marlo & Bill Peterson
19– Tanya & Mark Deppe
20– Val & Scott Pallwitz
Georgia & Dwight Roorda
22– Lori & Travis Beyer
24– Melissa & Rich Wilson
27– Linda & Steve Gonzalez
28– Betty & Allen Barwick
30– Kim & Rick Smith
31– Jennifer & David Beck
Kendra & Scott Pottebaum

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