

The Lighthouse

April, 2016

Newsletter of Ocean Shores United Methodist Church

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OPEN HEARTS—OPEN MINDS—OPENDOORS

Notes from the Pastor's Pen . . .

For awhile now I have been asking myself and others to 'know' yourself. This process is not a cute interest or personality quiz on the internet. If we are ever going to understand who God is, or how Jesus suffered for you, me, and the world, we must go much deeper.

It is imperative that we go into those mysterious inside places where we discover rejection and fear, and attempt to live there. If we have not yet experienced rejection and fear ourselves, and if we are genuinely unable to see how we or another suffers, our reactions will simply be empty responses.

One of my patron saints, Richard Rohr, states "*Faith is a unique creation of both grace and freedom. It's a choice we become capable of by God's love. 'A mysterious meeting of two freedoms,' Gutierrez calls it.*" A freedom that God is and a freedom that we must become."

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, said something to the affect that each believer should make a fiercesome spiritual examination of oneself. Rohr and Wesley would tell you that you cannot accomplish this without spending much time alone with God.

How are you spending your time?

See ya in church.

Wayne

TEXTS FOR APRIL Ocean Shores UMC Media

Date	Text	Web Site The Lighthouse www.oceanshoresumc.org Facebook Page OceanShoresUnitedMethodistChurchOSUMC
03	Acts 3:12-19	
10	Psalm 23:1-6	OSUMC Media People
17	1st John 4:7-21	Lighthouse Editor — Rooe Simpson oceanshoresumc.org — Rooe & Marv Wheeler
24	St. John 15:9-17	Facebook — Anne Westlund Lighthouse Production Editor — Pam Tuttle Lighthouse Editor Emerita — JoAnn Balmer

In Preparation for Easter Looking Ahead



Members bring in their crosses

Sunday, April 10

Native American Ministries Sunday

Friday, April 22

Earth Day

Monday, April 25

World Malaria Day

[Online OSUMC Calendar](#)

News Bits from the Administrative Board

Annual Conference. Barb White was selected to attend Annual Conference at Puyallup in June. This year's theme is Keeping Sabbath: Resting, Rejoicing, Returning.

Meeting in May planned on Banners. Participation welcomed in banner interest group. Jean Wheeler will organize after she returns from vacation.

Back Pack Project. At Charge Conference in September, the District Superintendent suggested consideration of a service effort to help feed school children. Council suggests that we take part as individuals and volunteer with Back Pack program at the Food Bank.

Stories of technology building better lives

Women Can Be Game Changers Through Technology



Gender divides lead to digital divides and often women don't get the important, life-changing messages they need to survive. [Read More](#)

Social media opening new doors to communication



You may not think of Facebook and Twitter as theological tools, but social media is another way to invite people "to the table." Find communications ideas and how-to resources. [Read More](#)

Text messaging can be lifesaving



Technology such as mass text messaging can be lifesaving. [Read More](#)

More stories at www.umc.org

The Perfect Moment

I've found in moments of frustration that I can perceive my life as a never ending series of responsibilities, distractions and obligations. When I am in one of these moods, I also try to remind myself that life consists of lasting memories and a few perfect moments. However. You can still not recognize that perfect moment until it is long gone. Enjoy this excerpt from The Perfect Moment and start creating yours.--JoAnn Balmer

By Andy Andrews

I was sitting in a porch swing on a dock watching Austin, my eight-year-old boy, as he fished. There was nowhere I had to be...no one I needed to call. As I look back, it was indeed a peculiar feeling that was about to change me forever.

After a few minutes of not catching anything, he said, "The reason I like to fish is because when everything is still and quiet, your whole self is focused on hoping. And whether you catch anything or not, you get to hope. It's a great feeling, isn't it? Hope, I mean. It's next best to excitement."

I agreed that it was.

The sun was sinking low over the water when he said, "Dad? Let's throw the football. Stand over there and I'll stand here. That way the sun won't be in either of our faces."

We passed the ball back and forth in silence. Then he said, "I'm going long."

"Go!" I answered. He turned, running hard, all elbows and knees as I arched the ball high into the air. It spiraled perfectly, then settling softly over my son's left shoulder as he caught it and fell dramatically onto the sand.

"Touchdown!" he yelled.

"Touchdown!"

He sat up and said, "Dad! Stop!"

I did.

"Look!" he insisted as he came closer. He grinned widely. I chuckled as I noticed the gap where his two front teeth used to be. "Dad, don't you see?" he said. I shook my head, mystified.

"No," I told my boy. I did not see.

"Well," he began, "think about it... The sun went down, so it's not in anybody's eyes, but it is still light enough to throw the football. The sand is soft enough to

fall on, and the temperature is not too hot and it's not too cold. And it's just you and me here together."

"Dad," he said, "it's just perfect."

And it was.

As I sit here today in what the world calls the "middle age" years of my life, I ask, "How many moments have I missed that were just perfect?"

I want to live a happy life, one for which I am grateful and acutely aware of time well spent. From this day forward, I will notice the joy on a child's face, not the chocolate left on the couch. I will notice clean sheets, the roof over my head, and see opportunities to help or teach. And though I will continue to question, to grow, and to learn, I know now that I must never again let a special moment pass without reminding myself, that this, right here, right now...is just perfect.

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Jesus, in Blue Jeans

by Laurie Beth Jones

This is a practical guide to everyday spirituality.

No one makes the teachings of ancient scripture as powerfully relevant to our work and our lives as Laurie Beth Jones.

I really enjoyed this book. We Christians need to prioritize what needs to be done in our communities to help the homeless and unemployed and make life easier for them.

In *Jesus, CEO* she illuminated the road to excellence with the use of ancient wisdom for visionary leadership, and in *The Path*, she outlined a blueprint for creating a meaningful mission statement.

Through both of her nationally best selling books, readers world wide have discovered a practical, accessible, and inspiring foundation for integrating work and spiritual values.

The author is a highly acclaimed speaker and consultant who conducts seminars world wide.

Lois Westlund
OSUMC Book Reviewer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1 12 N AA	2
3 10:30 A Worship	4 12 N AA	5 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	6 12 N AA 6:30 Bible Study	7 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	8 12 N AA	9
10 10:30 A Worship	11 12 N AA	12 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	13 12 N AA 6:30 Bible Study	14 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	15 12 N AA	16
17 10:30 A Worship	18 12 N AA	19 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	20 12 N AA 6:30 Bible Study	21 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	22 12 N AA	23
24 10:30 A Worship	25 12 N AA	26 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	27 12 N AA 6:30 Bible Study	28 10 A - 2 P Senior Res Ctr	29 12 N AA	30

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