



## MUSIC MUSINGS

During this year, we would like to present new hymns to our congregation or become more familiar with old favorites. We plan to do this by introducing a hymn each month. There will be an article in the monthly newsletter telling the history of the composition of the hymn and then we will sing the hymn each Sunday of the month. Our first hymn is generally sung during Epiphany. Epiphany is the season following Christmas, January 6 thru February 28, "during which we celebrate the "manifestation of God to the world, the journey of the Magi and the baptism of Jesus." (The Chalice Press).

## FEBRUARY HYMN OF THE MONTH

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

This hymn comes to us from the United Methodist Hymnal and its star references make it appropriate to use during the season of Epiphany. "In the first verse, 'God set the stars to give light to the world.' Christ becomes the 'star of my life.' The second verse shares the desire to 'see the brightness of God.' The 'Sun of Righteousness' illumines 'the way to the Father.' The final verse refers to our hope for the future in the 'coming of Christ.'" (C. Michael Hawn; Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church; History of Hymns)

Kathleen Thomerson is a Tennessee native, born in 1934. She served as director of music at University United Methodist Church in St. Louis and was on the organ faculties of St. Louis Conservatory and Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. Kathleen composed this hymn during the summer of 1966, while she was visiting The Church of the Redeemer in Houston, Texas. Thus the name of the hymn tune is HOUSTON.

Dr. Carlton Young, editor of the United Methodist Hymnal, lists the following Bible passages that support the text of this folk-like hymn: Isaiah 42:6c, "I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations."; Malachi 4:2, "But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings"; Revelation 21:25b, "And there will be no night there," and 22:5b, "They need no light of lamp or sun."(C. Michael Hawn; Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church; History of Hymns)

The composer expresses the beliefs of Christians striving for perfection in their faith as they attempt to follow the teachings of Jesus. This hymn reminds us that "we need to become as a child to fully understand the realm of God (Matthew 18:2-4)."(C. Michael Hawn; Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church; History of Hymns)

## CCC Partners with Nebraska Church for Mission



Last summer, Community Christian Church (DOC) from Camdenton, Missouri and SouthPointe Christian Church (DOC) from Lincoln, Nebraska joined forces for the first time to do joint mission projects. Community Christian Church (CCC), from the Lake of the Ozarks, traveled to Lincoln and stayed at a house. This house and the surrounding property, known as Serenity Acres, was donated by one of SouthPointe's parishioners to be a retreat center and a place for discipleship classes.

SouthPointe Christian Church is a new church start and they were eager and excited to join us and learn more about mission trips. CCC felt so blessed to have SouthPointe provide all our lunch and dinners. We provided our own breakfast.

The first night we joined together at Serenity Acres and shared a meal, had a short worship service, and sang songs while getting acquainted with each other.

Our first mission project was to build a prayer labyrinth on the Serenity Acres site. The location was about one-third of the size of a football field. SouthPointe CC had hired two landscaping professionals and the youth were to assist them. We completed the project in only three days, which was much to everyone's surprise.

After the prayer labyrinth, we completed projects around the outside of the house: power washed the screened-in porch and sidewalks, painted a picnic table, cleaned up some prayer paths, and trimmed trees and bushes.

We also spent half a day at CEDARS to help make decorations for their "Luau". The mission of CEDARS is "to help children who have been abused, neglected, and homeless achieve safety, stability, and enduring family relationships".

This summer, SouthPointe Christian Church in Nebraska will be traveling to Camdenton to join CCC in local mission work. We plan on working in the church's outdoor worship area and helping some of our local service centers: LANI (free store), Habitat for Humanity, Share the Harvest, LAMB House (food pantry and thrift store), and CADV (Citizens Against Domestic Violence).

Then in the summer of 2018, we are planning a new location where both churches will meet to do mission work.

The CCC youth have enjoyed the chance to meet new youth and get to know them. They have stayed in touch with each other and are excited for the upcoming trip to once again be together to do mission work, share meals, and have some fun.

*Submitted by Laura Sauvage*

## Adult Sunday School Opportunities Sundays 10:15 –11:00 a.m.



### **In the Library:**

A lectionary study based on lessons in "The Present Word" study book.

The winter series is "Creation: A Divine Cycle", from Psalms, Luke, and Galatians.

The spring series is "God Loves Us", from First John, Ephesians, John, Joel, Psalms, Romans and Jonah.

### **Room 53:**

A proverbs study, based on lessons by Rob Harbison. Upcoming theses include Home Life, Husbands and Wives, The Worthy Woman, Parents and Children, and The Nation.

### **Room 63:**

#### **For young adults and parents:**

A study using "Experiencing the Heart of Jesus, Knowing his Heart, Feeling His Love", by Max Lucado.