

The Chimes

July 1, 2016
Volume 1, Issue 7

GRITTY FAITH

This past weekend, I was travelling a bit, so I decided to listen to a few podcasts while I drove. Specifically, I caught up on the Freakonomics podcast (I know, I know, my life is SO exciting, and you're jealous). If you are not familiar with Freakonomics, it started as a book that took the academic discipline of economics (focused around incentives) and applied it to new problems to discover some really amazing answers. The podcast does similar things—tries to figure out inventive answers to why and how things in the world happen.

I listened to several different podcasts on different topics. One focused on expertise, one focused on willpower, one focused on the amazing story of the Leicester City football club and improbability, one focused on improving the ability to forecast the future, etc. But there was one general overarching theme in all of these podcasts: grit. To be great at something, you need grit.

Grit is defined as a positive, non-cognitive trait based on one's passion for a particular long-term goal or end state. Catch that? Put more simply, grit is your ability to persevere, to stick to the course, to see something through to the end, even when there are challenges and obstacles. To be great, you need grit.

It's amazing how many times this has come up in my devotional reading in the Bible and in church leadership lately. We need grit to stay the course, even in the midst of problems. There's the story of the Canaanite Woman in Matthew 15. The story of the persistent friend in Luke 11. Entire letters of Paul and Peter whose message is to stay the course in the midst of persecution. These passages don't teach a smooth and easy life of faith. They teach about the need for a gritty faith—a faith able to endure all obstacles, keeping its eye on the Kingdom.

Grit doesn't mean we refuse to change or adapt. Quite the contrary—people who show grit are constantly adapting, changing their strategies, seeking feedback and trying to get better. But they let nothing deter them from that ultimate goal. Friends, my greatest hope is at the end of my life, my God says to me, "Well done, good and faithful servant." I hope nothing deters me from that goal.

I know many in this church are struggling with serious problems, such as significant health or financial problems. Many in this church, I simply do not know what you are facing. I certainly know our church, and all churches, are facing difficulties in our world. My prayer is that through it all, we will adapt, we will improve, but we will never lose sight of our ultimate goal. I pray we will show the world some gritty faith.

Pastor Jonathan



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- "Gritty Faith"
- Music Opportunities
- Can we pray for you?
- Youth happenings!

VBS NEWS

July 18-July 22

9:00am-11:30am

Students: Preschool-5th grade,
Helpers: 6th grade-High school or
Adult volunteers can register at

kentonfirst.org

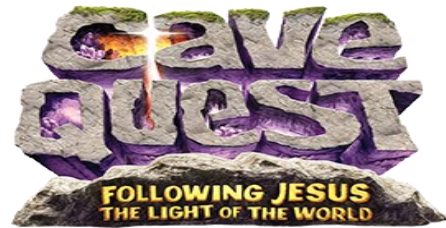
Find out the traditions we will keep
along with a few exciting changes at
one of our training meetings:

July 9th 10am-11am OR

July 10th 5pm-6pm

*"Our great power is from God,
not from ourselves." (2 Corinthians 4:7)*

Thank you for your generous donations
of decoration and activity supplies!!! We
appreciate your love, support and pray-
ers as we prepare our church to minister
to these young hearts and minds!



"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

—John 10:27

NEWS ON HAITI

Update:

While praying for clarity and asking God to guide me and send me wherever it is he is calling me next, (and writing this Haiti update) Mark Watkins approached me after church a few days later. He asked if I would be interested in going to camp Sierra Linda in Mexico with him and Olivia at the end of July.

So I will listen to God's voice, and I will be heading to Camp Sierra Linda with Mark and Olivia at the end of July.

Jacquelyn

Thank you everyone for the prayers and support for Breanna and I's trip. Unfortunately, the trip was cancelled due to extreme violence in Haiti. This is an election year and election years are known for being extremely dangerous in Haiti. The new president was supposed to be installed on May 14. People are angry because that did not happen and it still has not happened so people are still angry and they are displaying a significant amount of violence.

On a more local level, the city we are closest to (Cayes) was attacked. We were supposed to be there May 13th and on May 15th the city was raided. This would have left our team unable to get food from the city. We also would have been held captive and not have been able to leave the school. God works in mysterious ways and at first I was extremely devastated that we could not go on the trip. Now, after hearing what happened to our area, I thank God for being the ultimate protector. Please continue to pray for the citizens of Haiti, and for their country to be

able to find peace. There will be no mission trips to Haiti with this organization this summer, as they fully believe it is unsafe at this time. This is only the second trip in 10 years that Missions International of America has cancelled. However, they are planning the next trip to be set for November 10, 2016. Please pray for Haiti, and pray that this will be a safe trip for the team. We will take this month to pray about it and we will decide in August if we will go in November or not. Once we make a decision if we are going or not in November, then we will also make a decision about the money that you all so generously gave.

Thank you again for the prayers and for the continued support you give to us. God has been calling me to do missions for long time and He always provides. Each and every one of you has helped me in my walk in faith as I listen to God when he speaks to me. I am blessed to call Kenton First United Methodist Church my home.

Jacquelyn Stalder

YOUTH UPDATE

Thank you to all the volunteers, donors, and those who stopped and shopped at our yard sale. It was a major success for our trip! We raised \$1,387!! Since we have 21 campers, 1 CIT, and 5 counselors going to Lakeside (HOW AWE-SOME) the yard sale helped create more funds to pay for the trip.

We still need teen helpers for VBS, which is July 18-22 from 9:00-11:30. You can register to be a teen helper online at www.kentonfirst.org.

Please continue to pray for the youth in our church, especially as we prepare for Lakeside. Pray for physical health and safety and pray that God prepares our hearts for Lakeside as well.

Mark your calendars; this summer we are going to do a few local mis-

sions as a youth group. First, we will be painting NOC **July 24th** right after church. We will provide supper at the church. If you would like to help us out or just enjoy painting then feel free to join us! We will be painting the entire downstairs of NOC.

Our second mission of the summer is **July 31st** and that will be a can drive for NOC. We will start right after church and then provide a meal following the can drive. We are thankful for these opportunities and cannot wait to serve God on a local level.

God Bless,
Jacquelyn Stalder
Youth Director

SPONSOR CAMPERS AT CAMP SIERRA LINDA

Our district sponsors a yearly camp at Camp Sierra Linda, about one hour south of Monterrey, Mexico. Sierra Linda is the only church camp for children in Monterrey, and serves about 2,500 children annually. Part of our partnership included sponsoring campers who would not be able to attend camp otherwise. Many of these campers are orphans, or come from very challenging economic statuses. Camp Sierra Linda makes a real difference in these children's lives, and at many of the camps, dozens commit their lives to Christ. The cost of sponsoring a camper is \$80. Please consider giving a gift to sponsor a camper.

Several of our church members will be going to Camp Sierra Linda at the end of July to help with the camp. Please be in prayer for Jacquelyn Stalder, Mark Watkins, and Olivia Watkins.



Help Eradicate
D.U.W.B.O.M.D.
In our time!

You may have seen the admittedly tongue-in-cheek video, urging us to stand up against D.U.W.B.O.M.D. (Drummers Unable to Worship Because Of Malfunctioning Drum sets). All kidding aside, we are replacing the electronic drum set our church owns. While researching new electronic drum sets, we determined it would be good stewardship to raise funds to purchase a set beyond what we had budgeted. This new set sounds much better, is more durable, and will last much longer. Our hope is that the improved set will be able to be used in both services. If you are willing to give a gift towards this set, please contact the church office, or mark your offering envelope "drum set".



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/13 Robert Terry
16450 Maureen Dr.
Kenton

7/15 Geraldine Williams
901 Maynard Dr.
Tupelo MS 38801

7/29 Jack Rogers
602 N. Main Street
Kenton

7/30 Glen Gault
415 Oriental St.
Kenton



We are missing a vase from the 125 Celebration. It is a clear plastic vase with flowers etched in the plastic. It is about 12" tall. Please return to the church office.
Thank you.

USE AMAZON? SUPPORT NEW MINISTRY

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

If you order items from Amazon.com, you can support new ministries in the church, without costing yourself a thing! Our church has an Amazon Smile account. When you go to shop at Amazon, go to the page <http://smile.amazon.com>. From here, the page will prompt you to choose a charity to support. You can choose the First United Methodist Church in Kenton, Ohio. After you do so, Amazon will give 0.5% of your purchase to the church. It costs you nothing, and makes no difference in your experience. But it allows Amazon to donate to the church from your purchase.

All funds received from Amazon will go into our Seed Ministry Fund which will support new ministries at the church. So, if you shop at Amazon.com, please shop through Amazon Smile and support new ministries at Kenton First!

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

The UMW is again participating in UMCOR's Festival of Sharing this year. We are making school bags to be filled by you—our members—with supplies that children around the world need for attending school. There is a great need for these kits as well as health kits at this time. For more information on UMCOR and their ministry go to their website: <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>.

The empty school bags will be available in the church office by mid-July for you to pick up and fill with the items on the list. It is recommended that you only include those items listed as every bag

must contain the same items. The bags will be ready so you can take advantage of the back-to-school sales in early August.

We are also still in need of fabric for the bags; a light-medium weight denim, corduroy, or upholstery fabric is ideal. We will gladly accept donations of fabric or funds to purchase fabric and other supplies. If you are inclined to sew a few bags or make a donation, just call Jan Aller 419-673-0187 for information and materials.

Our church has responded with a generous spirit in the past and we know you will continue your spirit of giving.



We all pray for health and wellness. If you or your loved one is hospitalized, however, Pastor Jonathan or another representative from the church would love to visit you and pray with you, at your request. Unfortunately, the church is often the last to know when these things happen. Some hospitals notify the pastor, but often these notifications are not helpful (a recent notification Pastor Jonathan received was a voicemail with a mispronounced name and no other information-hard to follow up on!). So please notify the church if you or your loved one is in the hospital, or will be having surgery. We would love to pray for you!

“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,...’

-Matthew 6:9



July 3-Psalm 139-Fearfully and Wonderfully Made-This psalm focuses on how God knows us deeply, truly, and created us in a wonderful fashion. God knows us better than anyone, loves us better than anyone.

July 10-Psalm 130-Waiting Upon the Lord-To grow closer to God, we have to learn to wait upon the Lord, and listen for God's voice. God does not always speak when we would most prefer, but rewards our patient faith.

July 17-Psalm 51-You Desire Truth-More than any act of service or sacrifice we could make, God desires truth. God desires that we truly approach God with an open and contrite, truthful heart.

July 24-Matthew:6:5-14-Secret Prayer-Even when we have no other words, the Lord's Prayer is all we need to pray to God. Too often, it is a reflex action. Instead, let it penetrate our hearts and truly be our secret prayer to God.

PRAYER REQUEST

Marilyn Arn

Teresa Haudenschield

Karlee Hooker

Jane McGee

Sawyer Wright

Bobbi Tandon

Peggy Wills

Karl McNeal

Bill Hommel

Susie Heilman

Tia Reffner

Bud Winzenried

Our sympathy to the families of Christine Stahler and Barbara Hatfield

First United Methodist Church

234 N .Main Street

Kenton

419-673-3205

Kentonfirst@gmail.com

Website: kentonfirst.org

Reverend Jonathan Hanover

Mission Statement:

To Invite, Disciple, Serve, and
Send in the name of Jesus Christ.

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

	9:00	11:00	Offering
June 5	95	92	\$5919.39
June 12	67	105	\$3935.00
June 19	66	82	\$4424.00
June 26	63	112	\$5923.00

July 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 11:00 AA Youth return from Lakeside
3 9 Worship 10 Sunday school 11 Worship	4 Office Closed 7:30 AA	5 9:30 Knitters 5 Girl scouts 6:30 Boy scouts 7:30 Worship mtg	6 6:00 Middle school youth group at Watkins'house 6:30 Bible study	7 7:30 AA	8	9 10:00 VBS volun- teer training mtg 11:00 AA
10 9 Worship 10 Sunday school 11 Worship 5:00 VBS volun- teer training mtg	11 6:00 Girl scouts 7:30 AA	12 5 Girl scouts 6:30 Celebrate recovery mtg	13 6:30 Bible study	14 6 Preschool mtg 7:30 AA	15 5:30 Wedding rehearsal	16 11 AA 3:30 Wedding
17 9 Worship 10 Sunday school 11 Worship	18 Vacation Bible School 9-11:30 6:30 Children's Ministry mtg 7:30 AA	19 VBS 9-11:30 12 NOC mtg 5 Girl scouts 5:30 SPR 6:30 Youth mtg	20 VBS 9-11:30 6:30 Middle school youth group 6:30 Bible study	21 VBS 9-11:30 7:30 AA	22 VBS 9-11:30 12 Picnic lunch 1:00 Pool party for VBS volunteers	23 11 AA 5:30 Young Adults cookout-parsonage
24 9 Worship 10 Sunday school 11 Worship	25 6:30 Lead Team mtg 7:30 AA	26	27 6:30 Bible study	28	29 Boy scouts over- night	30 11 AA
31 9 Worship 10 Sunday school 11 Worship						



Thank you so much for the recognition and the gift. I've loved being an important part of such a strong and caring youth ministry, and I've been blessed with so many wonderful people in my life! Thank you for everything.

Avery Collins

Thank you for thinking of me and for the gift of a bible.

Mikaela Moore

I just wanted to sincerely thank you for the generous gift, it was very thoughtful and will be very helpful as I begin this new chapter in my life. I would also like to thank you all for the love and support you have given me.

Carrie Morris

Thank you so much for your wonderful gift. I will certainly remember it as I move on to bigger things. Thank you also for all of the support as I have grown up in the church. I really appreciate it.

Colin Headings

It was very thoughtful of you all to think of me during this time of celebration! The bible was an awesome gift that will come in handy in the future.

Jenna Moore

I just wanted to thank you for the gift and all of the love and support you have shown me. I really appreciate everything that the church has done for me.

Calynn Morris



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Kenton First UMC will be hiring a new Director of Music Ministries. This new position will oversee all the music ministries in the church. The Director will provide accompaniment in the 11 AM traditional service, direct the choir, and help coordinate the other music ministries in the church. If you know someone who may be interested, please encourage them to contact the church office for the job listing and description!



It's time for our busy choir to take a break. Consequently, we are looking for ideas and volunteers for special music. If you are interested or know someone who would be willing to share their talents, please contact Jan Aller, Megan Hanover, or Lyn Davis.



Vacation Bible School Picnic Lunch

Items needed:

20 pkgs hot dogs

20 pkgs buns

6 bags chips

4 pkgs carrots and celery

26 doz homemade cookies

Please contact Candy Callinan or the church office to donate by July 20th.