

# The Yoke



A PUBLICATION OF PEOTONE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE YOKE-June 2021

## SUNDAY SERVICE

*In co-operation with requirements set forth by state government and the Northern Illinois Conference, please follow these social distancing guidelines when attending services:*

- Only sit in the approved areas pre-marked
- PLEASE BRING AND WEAR A MASK

**FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK**

-Please take home your bulletin. Do not leave in pew or discard at church. Please do not discard ANY garbage at the church, including tissues and gum or candy wrappers, etc.

-The offering plates and bulletins will be on the table at the back of the church. These will NOT be passed around. Please take a bulletin and submit your offering at the table.

-NO COFFEE HOUR

**BIRTHDAY SUNDAY  
AND ALL OTHER  
ACTIVITIES  
CANCELLED UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE**

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## Deaths IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved William Klien in Olympia Fields, Illinois, born in Cleveland, Ohio, who passed away at the age of 79, on May 24, 2021. You can send your sympathy in the guestbook provided and share it with the family.  
You may also light a candle in honor of William Klien.

He was predeceased by : his parents, Chester Klien and Grace Klien (Earl). He is survived by : his wife Sandy Klien; his sons, Stephen (Laura Zangori), Peter (Melisa) and Matthew (Holly); his grandchildren, Alison, Zachary, Elizabeth Barthram (Liam), Jesse, Connor, Madison and Savanna; and his sister Mary Budz (Norbert).

**“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”**

**—Winston Churchill**

FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Friends,

Hard times come to all of us eventually. When they come, we tend to respond and handle those times as the persons we truly are.

When the hard times come, we also experience change in ourselves. Those times tend to move us farther along the pathway we are already traveling. So hard times reveal more of who we are and move us to become even more of the same.

Writing to encourage struggling Christians, the writer of the Hebrew letter reminds them of the power of faith (Hebrews 11) at work in the lives of people of faith. He points out the many ways that faith impacts life:

- By faith we understand that God is Creator of this world.
- By faith we learn to worship.
- By faith we experience genuine connection with God.
- By faith we reverence and respond to God.
- By faith we obey God even when God's call requires change and courage.
- By faith we experience the wonder of God's provision.
- By faith we persevere when times are hard.

• By faith we remain faithful. Biblical faith is reliance on God and trust in God. By faith, we believe, claim, and experience the promises of God.

Twentieth century Methodist missionary to India E. Stanley Jones exemplified the faith life. His positive attitude permeated every conversation and every message he preached. When asked why he was so positive, he said: "I believe in Jesus Christ as Lord of my life and have surrendered all that I am and all that I have to his authority."

At 89 years of age, still active in

ministry, he was stricken by a crippling stroke. Hospitalized for 5 months in Boston, he determined that he would speak and walk again. He asked friends around the world to pray. He requested that whoever awakened him in the hospital speak this admonition: "In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise and walk." During his hospitalization, he began to write (by dictation) his book *The Divine Yes*. Finally, he regained his speech and he resumed his preaching ministry.

E. Stanley Jones' faith revealed itself in his positive attitude toward life even in the face of difficulty. With positive, faith-empowered attitudes, people of faith not only survive, they accomplish great things. People of faith put themselves under the authority of Jesus Christ and experience God's best.

See you soon,

*RLY*

Pastor Richard Young



## HAPPY FATHERS' DAY

Garrison Keillor reminds us that Father's Day goes back to a Sunday morning in May 1909 when a woman named Sonora Smart Dodd was sitting in church in Spokane, Washington, listening to a Mother's Day sermon. She thought of her father who had raised her and her siblings after her mother died in childbirth, and she thought that fathers should get recognition, too. And the tradition of Father's Day caught on, though rather slowly. Mother's Day became an official holiday in 1914; Father's Day, not until 1972.

The final six sessions of **DISCIPLE Bible Study – The Letters of Paul** were also conducted on line through the use of ZOOM video conferencing.

Our **worship time continues on Facebook Live** for those who are not yet able to attend in person. For now, the time is 10:30 a.m. on Kathy Carter Young's page and then it will be shared on the church page by 11:30. So far, **15 have viewed the May 30 service**. We had severe sound problems recently on the broadcast. We are committed to resolve these as efficiently and as quickly as we can.

**DISCIPLE Bible Study – Jesus in the Gospels**. These sessions have all been conducted on line through the use of ZOOM video conferencing.

# The Christian Review

## See Light, Be Light

In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: "For there is always light, / if only we're brave enough to see it. / If only we're brave enough to be it."

How often we long for light! In recent years we've agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, "*You* are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14, emphasis added) and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we're urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others' lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.



## Hanging out with Dad

I've always been a "daddy's girl." Growing up, I usually spent Saturdays in the garage with my dad. We'd build something, fix a car part or get into some trouble together.

Though Joseph wasn't Jesus' biological father, he certainly served as a father figure for God's Son. Jesus followed in Joseph's footsteps as a carpenter, but we're told little about his childhood. When Joseph advised Jesus to "measure twice and cut once," did Jesus mention he'd get it right on the first measure? How many craftsman tips did Jesus learn from Joseph? And did Joseph learn a few from Jesus? Surely young Jesus looked up to Joseph. What did wonder look like in the eyes of the One who invented wonder?

How am I hanging out with God on a regular basis? Am I continuing to learn his "trade"? Do I intentionally mimic his words, his kindness, his ways of loving others well? Take a minute to ponder that. Imagine yourself out in the garage with God (or in the kitchen with God, or at the computer with God). What task do you imagine doing together? What does God say to you as you look into his eyes?

—Janna Firestone

## Christian Symbol

### WEDDING SYMBOL

This version of the Chi Rho features two interlocking rings on a cross. It symbolizes the partnership a husband and wife make with God as they unite. The Wedding Cross also symbolizes a couple's commitment to grow together in God's grace and love.

# ACTIVITIES

Joke



## TRIVIA

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in \_\_\_\_\_ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn

Last month's trivia answer:

Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)

## PUZZLE

### Conundrums of creation

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.



- You can hold but not touch this. \_\_\_\_\_
- Before using this, you must break it. \_\_\_\_\_
- This falls without getting hurt. \_\_\_\_\_
- This gets bigger the more you take away. \_\_\_\_\_
- This has an eye but cannot see. \_\_\_\_\_

"In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the \_\_\_\_\_.  
It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.  
It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit  
to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth."

(PSALM 19:4-6, NIV)

# June 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6  <i>Service 10:30am</i>	7	8	9  <i>Disciple Bible Study 10:00AM via ZOOM</i>	10  CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  CHURCH COUNCIL MTG	11	12
13  OPERATIONS Committee Meeting  <i>Service 10:30am</i>	14	15	16  <i>Disciple Bible Study 10:00AM via ZOOM</i>	17	18	19
20 Happy Father's Day! <i>Special Sunday Offering Peace with Justice</i>  <i>Service 10:30am</i>	21	22	23  <i>Disciple Bible Study 10:00AM via ZOOM</i>	24	25	26
27  <i>Service 10:30am</i>	28	29	30  <i>Disciple Bible Study 10:00AM via ZOOM</i>			
				<p align="center"><b><u>Helping Hands - June</u></b></p> <p align="center">The NOW Committee encourages you to bring your contributions of the following items to church so they can be delivered to Helping Hands: <b><u>PAPER PRODUCTS: toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues.</u></b></p>		

**Peotone United Methodist Church**

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**June 2021**



Let's do good to all people.

Galatians 6:10, NASB

