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# Faith Messenger

**SEPTEMBER  
2015**

*Faith United Methodist Church  
"Engage, Equip, and Empower!"*

**Volume 2015,  
Issue 9**

## What Wesley Practiced and Preached About Money

**Special Points of Interest:**

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Most of us know that John Wesley was used of God to revive 18th-century England and to start the Methodist Church. We know him as a great preacher and a greater organizer. But few of us realize that Wesley made enormous sums from preaching--the sale of his writings made him one of England's wealthiest men. In an age when a single man could live comfortably on 30 pounds a year, his annual income reached 1,400. With such an income he had the opportunities to put his ideas on money into practice. What did he say about money? And what did he do with his own?

John Wesley knew grinding poverty as a child. His father, Samuel Wesley, was the Anglican priest in one of England's lowest-paying parishes. He had nine children to support and was rarely out of debt. Once John saw his father being marched off to debtor's prison. So when John followed his father into the ministry, he had no illusions about financial rewards.

It probably came as a surprise to John Wesley that while God had called him to follow his father's vocation, he had not also called him to be poor like his father. Instead of becoming a parish priest, John felt God's direction to teach at Oxford University. There he was elected a fellow of Lincoln College, and his financial status changed dramatically. His position usually paid him at least thirty pounds a year, more than enough money for a single man to live on. John seems to have enjoyed his relative prosperity. He spent his money on playing cards, tobacco and brandy.

While at Oxford, an incident changed his perspective on money. He had just finished paying for some pictures for his room when one of the chambermaids came to his door. It was a cold winter day, and he noticed that she had nothing to protect her except a thin linen gown. He reached into his pocket to give her some money to buy a coat but found he had too little left. Immediately the thought struck him that the Lord was not pleased with the way he had spent his money. He asked himself, Will thy Master say, "Well done, good and faithful steward"? Thou hast adorned thy walls with the money which might have screened this poor creature from the cold! O justice! O mercy!--Are not these pictures the blood of this poor maid?

Perhaps as a result of this incident, in 1731 Wesley began to limit his expenses so that he would have more money to give to the poor. He records that one year his income was 30 pounds and his living expenses 28 pounds, so he had 2 pounds to give away. The next year his income doubled, but he still managed to live on 28 pounds, so he had 32 pounds to give to the poor. In the third year, his income jumped to 90 pounds.

*(Continued on page 4).*

## Prayer Requests

Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

**Colony Court Memory & Care Suites:** Ann Swenson,  
Rosalind Peterson, Gerri Peterson

**Colony Court:** Millie Groh , Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg,  
Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins, Paul Krause

**Lakeshore Inn:** Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Don Lohse

**Latham Place:** Liz Corchran

**Morrow Home, Sparta, WI:** Marlene Rietfort

**Oaklawn Health Care Center:** Jim Keller, Bill Brooks

**Tower Light, St. Louis Park:** Darlene Lynch

**Those who also need our prayers:** Willie Mahler[ Home Hospice]

**Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship:** Bruce and Deb Hering, Leona Quast,  
Dave and Joann Egeness, Kookie Kukacka, Deloris Asmus, Peter Fog, Marilyn Possin, Marlin Olson (Patrice's Dad), Verna Fog, Berts Walker, The Westrum Family, the Voshell Family.



## Nurse's Notes: Tattoos are Forever

Do you have a hankering for a tattoo? Here is some advice from the Mayo Clinic booklet "Health Guide for Young Adults."

### BODY ART

If you are considering body art, you will probably be happier with your decision if you:

- Take time to seriously consider whether body art is right for you. If you have doubts, wait.
- Decide without pressure from friends.
- Make sure the body art studio is a reputable, licensed business.
- Interview the artist to make sure he or she is a knowledgeable, experienced professional. It's important that the artist and studio follow established health and safety regulations. Instruments that have not been properly sterilized carry a risk for infection such as HIV and hepatitis B. Because body art involves puncturing, cutting or burning skin, a chance of infection always exists.
- Consider body art permanent. Think about whether you will like your body art five or 10 years from now and whether the design will still be the statement you want to make. Will you feel comfortable with it in any social situation or with a new partner? Will it be appropriate if you get a new job or change careers? While laser treatment can remove some tattoos, the process is expensive, painful and can result in scarring.

(Continued on next page.)

## Nurse's Notes: Tattoos are Forever - continued

(Continued from page 2.)

### TATTOOS

A tattoo takes about two to three weeks to heal. Pain varies depending upon the location; areas over bone and near joints hurt most because of the nerves located



there. Before getting a tattoo, try a temporary tattoo in the approximate size, design and area you are considering.

### PIERCING

A piercing takes from four weeks to one year to completely heal, depending upon the body location. Piercing through cartilage, such as the tough elastic tissue around the nose and upper ear, takes considerably longer to heal and poses a greater risk of infection, and deformity, than other areas. A primary reason for slow healing is the few blood vessels in cartilage to aid in healing. Using the correct jewelry size and metal type to match the location being pierced will help promote healing and reduce infection and allergic reaction. For example, jewelry for pierced earlobes should not be used for another site.

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I have seen many tattoos in my time as an OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner. Weight gain and weight loss play havoc with tattoos. What was once a pretty little rose turns into a red and green blob. Pregnancy, with the stretching of the skin during pregnancy and then the rapid loss, causes the most remarkable changes in the design. The once pretty little rose now grown huge during pregnancy, not too bad-but after the baby is born the rose is reduced with stretch marks that look very unattractive. These changes are not just in the abdomen, but on other areas of the body that have put on weight rapidly. Think very carefully if you want to have that tattoo forever.

God has made us to be unique individuals. Why would we mess with His handiwork?

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10

Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN

Your Parish Nurse

## Choir Update

Choir will begin our season on Sunday, September 6 (before Labor Day). We will practice at 9:00 a.m. Our Wednesday practices begin on September 9th. *Barb Klampe.*

## What Wesley Practiced - continued

(Continued from page 1.)

Instead of letting his expenses rise with his income, he kept them to 28 pounds and gave away 62 pounds. In the fourth year, he received 120 pounds. As before, his expenses were 28 pounds, so his giving rose to 92 pounds.

Wesley felt that the Christian should not merely tithe but give away all extra income once the family and creditors were taken care of. He believed that with increasing income, what should rise is not the Christian's standard of living but the standard of giving.

This practice, begun at Oxford, continued throughout his life. Even when his income rose into the thousands of pounds of sterling, he lived simply, and he quickly gave away his surplus money.

One year his income was a little over 1400 pounds. He lived on 30 pounds and gave away nearly 1400 pounds. Because he had no family to care for, he had no need for savings. He was afraid of laying up treasures on earth, so the money went out in charity as quickly as it came in. He reports that he never had 100 pounds at any one time.

Wesley limited his expenditures by not purchasing the kinds of things thought essential for a man in his station of life. In 1776 the English tax commissioners inspected his return and wrote him the following: "[We] cannot doubt but you have plate for which you have hitherto neglected to make an entry."

They were saying a man of his prominence certainly must have some silver plate in his house and were accusing him of failing to pay excise tax on it. Wesley wrote back: "I have two silver spoons at London and two at Bristol. This is all the plate I have at present, and I shall not buy any more while so many round me want bread."

John Wesley's teaching on money offered simple, practical guidelines for every believer.

His first rule about money was Gain all you can. Despite its potential for misuse, money in itself is something good. There is no end to the good it can do: "In the hands of (God's) children, it is food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, raiment for the naked. It gives to the traveler and the stranger where to lay his head. By it we may supply the place of a husband to the widow, and of a father to the fatherless. We may be a defense for the oppressed, a means of health to the sick, of ease to them that are in pain. It may be as eyes to the blind, as feet to the lame: yea, a lifter up from the gates of death!"

Wesley added that in gaining all they can, Christians must be careful not to damage their own souls, minds, or bodies, or the souls, minds or bodies of anyone else. He thus prohibited gaining money through industries that pollute the environment or endanger workers.

Wesley's second rule for the right use of money was Save all you can. He urged his hearers not to spend money merely to gratify the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eye, or the pride of life. He cried out against expensive food, fancy clothes, and elegant furniture: "Despise delicacy and variety and be content with what plain nature requires."

Wesley had two reasons for telling Christians to buy only necessities. The obvious one was so they would not waste money. The second was so they would not increase their desires.

The old preacher wisely pointed out that when people spend money on things they do not really need, they begin to want more things they do not need. Instead of satisfying their desires, they only increase them.

Wesley's third rule was Give all you can. One's giving should begin with the tithe. He told the one who does not tithe, "Thou dost undoubtedly set thy heart upon thy gold" and warned, "It will 'eat thy flesh as fire!'"

But one's giving should not end at the tithe.

All of the Christian's money belongs to God, not just the first tenth. Believers must use 100 percent of their income as God directs.

And how has God directed Christians to use their incomes? Wesley listed four scriptural principles:

Provide things needful for yourself and your family (I Tim. 5:8). The believer should make sure the family has "a sufficiency of plain, wholesome food to eat, and clean raiment to put on" as well as a place to live and enough to live on if something were to happen to the breadwinner.

"Having food and raiment, let us be therewith content" (I Tim. 6:8). "Whoever has sufficient food to eat, and raiment to put on, with a place to lay his head, and something over, is rich," he said.

Provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Rom. 12:17) and "Owe no man anything" (Rom. 13:8). Wesley said the next claim on a Christian's money is the creditors'. He adds that those who are in business for themselves need to have adequate tools, stock, or capital for the carrying on of that business.

(Continued on next page.)

## What Wesley Practiced - continued

(Continued from page 4.)

“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith” (Gal. 6:10). After the Christian has provided for the family, the creditors, and the business, the next obligation is to use any money that is left to meet the needs of others.

In giving these four biblical principles, Wesley recognized some situations were not clear-cut. He accordingly offered four questions to help his hearers decide how to spend money:

In spending this money, am I acting like I own it, or am I acting like the Lord's trustee?

What Scripture requires me to spend this money this way?

Can I offer up this purchase as a sacrifice to the Lord?

Will God reward me for this expenditure at the resurrection of the just?

In 1744 Wesley wrote, “When I die if I leave behind me ten pounds...you and all mankind can bear witness against me, that I have lived and died a thief and a robber.” When he died in 1791, the only money mentioned in his will was the miscellaneous coins to be found in his pockets and dresser drawers. Most of the 30,000 pounds he had earned in his lifetime he had given away. As Wesley said, “I cannot help leaving my books behind me whenever God calls me hence; but in every other respect, my own hands will be my executors.”

--This article was adapted from Leadership magazine, Winter 1987. At that time, Charles Edward White was an assistant professor of Christian thought and history at Spring Arbor College in Michigan.

## Administrative Assistant Office Hours

Office Hours have changed to:

- **Monday:** 8:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday:** 8:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.
- **Thursday:** 8:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.
- **Friday:** 8:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

If you would like to contact Pastor Victor later in the day, please call the administrative assistant to set up a time that would work for you.

## Faith Crafters and Stitchers

Faith Crafters and Stitchers will meet Thursday, September 10, from 1:00-3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a personal project, an idea for a Bazaar project, or just come for the fellowship. Coffee and a snack will be served. Everyone is welcome. Call Sandy Voshell at 835-4122 if you have any questions.

## Caregivers Club

We have formed a Caregivers Club. It will be held the first Thursday of every month from 12:45-1:45 in the Lakeview Room. There is a \$5 facilitator fee. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 3rd. Please contact Kelly Adams at Waseca Area Caregiver Services by phone 507-461-3820 or email at wasecacs@outlook.com for further details. Thank you.

## Thank You

Thank you, Faith Family, for your prayers, cards, shawls, and visits. They were appreciated very much.

*Betty Jane Ruedy*

## UMW Update

**September! Already!** I was just writing about all the Spring Events. Fall is drawing near. And we have many events to look forward to; Guest Night, Polka Service, Trunk or Treat, Bazaar, and those are just the church's events. School starts, vacations end, Thanksgiving and Christmas and the cooler weather to look forward to.

This summer Mission u was in July at St. Johns University. Mission u event offers classes on spiritual growth, a geographic area and a social issue. The studies for United Methodist Women for 2015 are:

“Latin America”

“Created for Happiness; Understanding Your Life in God”

“The Church and People with Disabilities”

Our local unit has purchased a study book for each of the studies. I encourage each circle to use one of the studies at your meetings. Contact Barbara Friedl for information.

Our Fall Bazaar is November 7<sup>th</sup>. The church and community look forward to all the church bazaars and crafts shows in the area. If you haven't already begun your craft projects for the event you better get started. Men and women are invited to participate. I'm looking forward to our famous vegetable beef soup; and homemade bread and pies. Start looking for those clipboards, so you may sign-up.

### **What is United Methodist Women?**

United Methodist Women is a faith-based membership organization of laywomen within The United Methodist Church. We are organized for mission and our members are committed to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ in community with other women and building the lives of women, children and youth. United Methodist Women has been in mission for more than 140 years.

### **Who is a member?**

Any woman who wants to belong to and participate in the global mission of the church through United Methodist Women and who commits herself to the PURPOSE can become a member of United Methodist Women.

### **What is the PURPOSE?**

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

### **What is the vision?**

United Methodist Women is turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth in the world.

*“The Church By The Lake”*

## ***Faith Church Coming Events***

*Faith @ the park Sunday August 30th 9:30 am*

*[Clear Lake Park Pavilion]*

*Potluck, worship service, music by Bob and Kozy*

*Polka service September 12th 5 pm*

*Tickets \$15.00 , purchase in advance.*

*[great German food, entertainment and worship service]*

*Pumpkin carving TBD October*

*Guest night : Why the Weather Person isn't Always Right*

*Tuesday October 22nd 7 pm sanctuary*

*Trunk or Treat*

*Saturday October 31st 5-8 pm church parking lot*

*All are welcome*

*Any questions call Faith Church at 507-835-3167.*



Faith United Methodist Church

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### **Change Service Requested**

## **HAITI MISSION TRIP IS A GO IN 2016.**

Yes, I am returning to Haiti to do cervical cancer screens and treatment. I will be going with the same group and we will be at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Limbé. The call keeps coming to me to go. The leading cause of cancer in 3rd World women is cervical cancer. I need to help. If you would like to financially support this mission trip, it would be greatly appreciated. A check to the church with a memo for Haiti will do it. Thanks again for your support. Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN, Parish Nurse

### **MONTHLY MEET-UPS:**

#### Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will meet **Wednesday, September 16, at 2:00 p.m.** at **Shirley Hansen's** home. Note the time change. Devotions will be led by Sherry Scholljegerdes. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

#### Mary Circle

UMW Mary circle meet on **Tuesday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m.** Barb Friedl is hostess. The location is to be determined.

#### Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Wednesday, September 16th, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.** The location is to be determined.

#### Men of Faith

Men of Faith will meet **Thursday, September 10th, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall.**