

The East Ohio Conference had mandatory training for all pastors on Boundaries. There were several keynote speakers that spoke on varieties of topics surrounding the issue. During the all-day event breakout sessions were available to each pastor. Two sessions which were attended were "Conflict Resolution" and "Safe Sanctuaries." Our church will duplicate the training in August for everyone that volunteers in the church. The other session on conflict resolution is what will be expounded on here.

Researchers suggest that conflict, at almost all levels, has certain predictable dynamics.

- Often what starts out as a personal disagreement is transformed into personal antagonism.
- There is a pattern of change in issues as the conflict intensifies.
- Communication is less direct and less accurate.
- An "eye for an eye" sets in.
- Often brings a change of social organization. Conflict is a spiritual matter.

The Bible is full of conflict and diversity. Often the conflict gives characters in the Scripture an opportunity to learn something about God. Authentic peace requires both conversation and justice. Reconciliation is God's overriding concern for human beings throughout history. Reconciliation is God's responsibility and gift to us. The Church's role is not to make reconciliation happen, but to create an environment where God's reconciliation has a better chance of happening.

As always, the Bible calls us to love our enemies. People in conflict behave like enemies, and Scripture calls us to find ways of loving them.

Several Scriptures talk about handling conflict. **Matthew 18:15-20** reminds us that God intends for us to live in peace. Peacemaking starts with our sisters and brothers. From experience, we know that conflict is normal and inevitable. The question is not if we have conflict, but how we respond to it. Direct communication is better than triangle relationships. Conflicts between individuals concern the whole church. God is present for the purpose of helping people resolve their differences.

Acts 15:1-35 Shows the pattern for reconciliation and conflict resolution. Resolution begins by acknowledging that a problem exists. Then find a forum adequate to address the problem. Seek representation of all viewpoints.

In order to resolve conflict, we need to learn to listen and seek discernment for what God is telling the church. There is a time when decision and implementation bring relief. Conflict can be a means of God's revelation of new directions for mission and ministry.

Types of Conflict and resolution methods:

Data: Misunderstanding of what data is important. Resolution: Reach an agreement about what data is important. Come to an agreement with the next steps.

Interest: Perceived psychological information involving a preference. One group likes hymns and another group likes worship and praise music. Resolution: Focus on the interest rather than the position. Get to the objective and concrete facts to create a win-win situation.

Relationships: Relationships involve strong emotions, stereotypes, miscommunication, repeated negative behavior, ego, and family systems. Resolution: Control expression by ground rules, affirm feelings, "I hear you say." "When you do this I feel ____." Change the family system and encourage problem solving behavior.

Value: When decisions are based on what a person values. Resolution: Allow parties to agree to disagree. Have clear vision and live into the vision.

Structural: Unequal control or distribution of authority is given to people. Resolution: Be clear about who you are and where you are going as a church.

When resolving conflict, we need people with impartiality, mediators that do not have conflicts of interest, competence, and confidentiality. May we continue as a church to resolve conflicts in a positive way by first naming the issue and talking it through.

In Jesus' name! Pastor Tina

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1 Communion Boy Scouts 3:30-5p Youth 5:30-7p</i>	<i>2 Margaret's Home Group 1p</i>	<i>3 Disciple 10a & 7:15p Kid's Club 6-7p</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5 Prayer at the church 9-10a</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7 Daughter Tea 11am Youth 5:30-7p</i>
<i>8 Mother's Day Boy Scouts 3:30-5p</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10 Kid's Club 6-7p</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14 Pancake Breakfast 8-11a Youth 5:30-7p</i>
<i>15 Hall Rental Boy Scouts 3:30-5p</i>	<i>16 Margaret's Home Group 1p</i>	<i>17 Disciple 10a-7:15p Kid's Club 6-7p</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20 Wedding Rehearsal</i>	<i>21 Wedding Sanctuary Youth 5:30-7p</i>
<i>22 Graduation Sunday Boy Scouts 3:30-5p</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24 Kid's Club 6-7p</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26 Napper's Luncheon 11:30a</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28 Youth 5:30-7p</i>
<i>29 Boy Scouts 3:30-5p</i>	<i>30 Memorial Day</i>	<i>31 Kid's Club 6-7p</i>				

BIRTHDAYS

Barb Bailey 1st
 Emma Bailey 1st
 Ken Robb 2nd
 Margaret Javens 3rd
 Jim Derringer 3rd
 Mark Einsiedel 7th
 Ray Colledge 8th
 Tom Bowker 9th
 Matthew Seabolt 10th
 Zane Rozeski 20th
 Brent Bowker 21st
 Robert David Moore 22nd
 Scott Moore 27th
 Dale Webber 28th
 Jen Wollet 30th
 Pastor Tina 30th

ANNIVERSARIES

Matt & Leighann Colledge 11th
 Greg & Candie Dickinson 16th



The moment a child is born, the mother is also born. She never existed before. The woman existed, but the mother, never. A mother is something absolutely new. ~Rajneesh

MISSION TRIP TO ANDREWS, SC ~ 2016

We gathered on Sunday at the Andrews United Methodist Church with 19 people to work at 3 different sites in the area. Jerry and I were assigned to a trailer in Kingstrett, SC, which had been flooded.

On arriving there Monday morning, the consensus was that no way would we make a difference on that trailer in two weeks! The previous team had started the drywall process, so for the rest of the week we hauled, measured, cut and hung drywall throughout the trailer and two room addition. The homeowner and his daughter came on Friday and were ecstatic at the progress they saw.

The second week we mudded drywall, sanded almost endlessly, primed and painted in 6 rooms, then started to lay the subfloor in 3 rooms. The team also built steps to replace rickety ones to a porch, replaced the back door in the trailer and built a housing for the water pump. When we left on Friday, we all felt we had accomplished a great deal.

Margaret Javens, team member

DAUGHTER TEA SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

11:00 AM

NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP!



GRADUATING SENIORS

Emma Bailey, Nick Finch, Lucy Baer, Matt Seabolt, Brandon Schmitt, Bethany Knight
Graduating with a Master Degree: Robert Beveridge

OPEN HOUSE

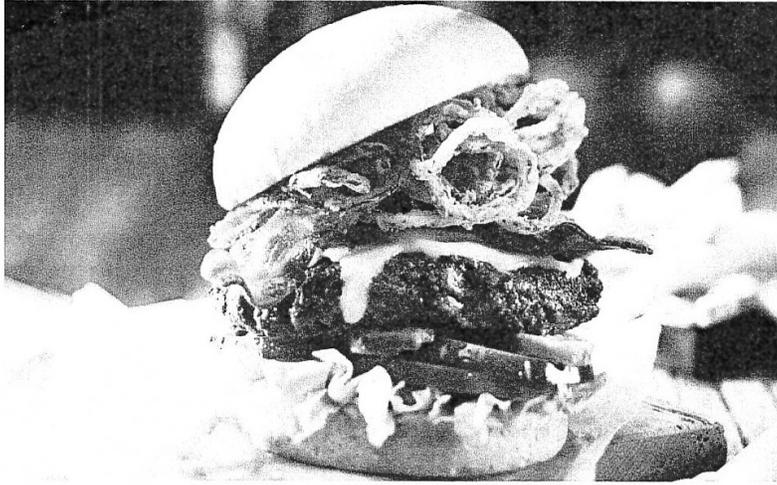
Emma Bailey
Sunday, June 5th 5:00-10:00 pm
3571 Waterford Rd. (old camp ground)
Rsvp to Emma-330-397-9560

Nick Finch
Sunday, June 19th 4:00 pmm
Potter's Camp

Matt Seabolt
Saturday, June 11th 4:00 pm
45797 Crestview Rd.



DINE & DONATE



Dine at Applebee's and 10% of your bill will be donated to
UMCC Veterans Program

Present this flyer to your server on May 26, 2016 ALL DAY
at your local Applebee's located at:
Boardman

For more information, please contact:
UMCC at 330-743-5149

Donation percentage excludes tax and tip. Valid at participating restaurants. Must present flyer in order for organization to receive credit for purchase. Flyers are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking lot. Not valid with other discounts or promotions. Applebee's reserves the right to accept or reject requests from organizations at its own discretion. Additional restrictions may apply. See restaurant for details.



Coupons also available
for the
Austintown Applebee's
in the lobby

A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials heavy and sudden, fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends who rejoice with us in our sunshine desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts.

Washington Irving



IN THE MAIL

Today, I received your letter with your generous gifts. Though I've always been grateful for whatever you may send, it was very thoughtful to send gift cards and coupons since it's towards the end of the semester. I consider myself to be very lucky to be part of such a caring church family. It is relieving to know I have so much support from back home. I know that I not only speak for myself, but for my family as well when I say thank you for your gifts and prayers.

Love Trevor

Thiel College

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You don't really understand human nature unless you know why a child on a merry-go-round will wave at his parents every time around — and why his parents will always wave back. ~William D. Tammeus