Arise-a United Methodist Church



Ministers Every member of the Church

Pastor Don Weatherup

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Two Times Eighty: Dorothy Winslow and Paul Smith



Jewell and Paul Smith

Dorothy Winslow (R) and Judy Miller

ho says that turning 80 is a reason to slow down? Two of our Arise members just had the pleasure of becoming octogenarians recently. Both of them are happy, healthy and on the go. They leave the rocking chairs to others—they're too busy to think about resting. Staying active and involved keeps them both looking and acting younger than their biological age.

Dorothy's birthday was on May 10, but she is waiting to celebrate in style on June 27 when her family from out of state can join with her. She grew up attending the Westlawn Methodist Church in Detroit. One of Dorothy's earliest memories there was of Children's Day when, at age 12, she was baptized with other children her age. She used to go to Sunday School, as well as the Teen Club. "When anyone in our club reached the age of marriage, we would give them a household supply shower—food staples, like flour, sugar and coffee. Those were great times!" she recalls fondly. "Another fun thing I remember from high school was we traveled by open cattle car from Woodward Ave. in Detroit to Lake Louise Church Camp up north. We left at 6 a.m., sitting on bales of hay and it was an all day trip. I remember the weather being really nice. We stayed in little cabins and did the usual camp things—sang songs, learned Bible verses, swam and boated.

Later, as an adult, Dorothy married Orland Winslow at the Whitmore Lake Methodist Church and settled in Hamburg. She and her husband enjoyed working together with the Boy Scouts and transferred to Community Congregational Church in Pinckney to raise their family. She and her husband had five children. Daughter Pam passed away at age 25 and Orland is no longer living. The rest of her family includes son, Richard, a youth minister and son Darel, who is a preacher who traveled the rodeo circuit, ministering to cowboys. Daughter Kathryn is a pastor who has spoken at Arise in the past, and most of us know Judy, her look-alike youngest daughter, who is very active in the children's ministry at Arise, along with her mother.

Dorothy is probably best known for her gift of hospitality. Preparing food for others and making them feel welcome is her passion and she does it with great skill. In addition, she and Judy make pasties to sell for Diabetes research. Outside of Arise, she is active in White Shrine, Eastern

Pastor's Column



Pastor Don Weatherup

I will never forget the moment. I never thought I could stare so intently at an object. I was staring at a small strip at the end of a home pregnancy test to determine if it was turning pink (pregnant) or staying white (not pregnant). I have seen this same scenario in many movies, but usually it is two people horrified over the possibility of an unwanted pregnancy. My situation was far

from that. My wife and I were ready for children. We had been married four years and were eagerly anticipating starting our family. Slowly, it became clear that the strip was pink. And for the first time in my life I contemplated the idea of being a father. Wow!

I loved the idea of being a father and enjoyed every delicious moment of anticipation. We were fortunate that the pregnancy was without complication. My wife did not experience much in the way of morning sickness. The whole process of gestation was quite fun. I loved talking to my baby through mama's belly and absolutely loved feeling the baby kick. What amazing things to experience for the first time!

The actual childbirth was in a word....awful! Long. Emotional. Torturous. And I wasn't even the one trying to pass a bowling ball sized creature through tight spaces! But once she was born...words can't even describe it! (Ditto for child number two). There, in my very hands, was a human being that was a part of me. I knew that moment why God speaks of such pride watching us (God's children) live and breathe.

The pride I felt that first day of fatherhood is indescribable. Debbie (my first wife) and I were perfectly paranoid. I was completely inexperienced at babies. Every noise and every move the baby made brought me instant panic! Eventually, of course, that wore off.

Since that first moment after the birth of child number one, fatherhood has been such a tremendous blessing. When it comes to being a father, I have but one regret. I just wish I was better at it.

There are countless moments when I look back and I know I blew it. Many times I lost my patience when I wish I hadn't. There were many moments when I didn't take the kind of time to parent with my very best effort. And because my first marriage ended in divorce, my biological children spent many years of their life 2,000 miles away from me. This brought more agony to my heart than you can imagine. When I think about the ways I have fallen short of being the kind of father I want to be, I take great comfort in Matthew 7:11. It says, "As bad as you are, you still know how to give good gifts to your children. But your heavenly Father is even more ready to give good things to people who ask."

I think about the fact that, although I am not the perfect father, it is the deep love I have for my children that continues to motivate me and calls me to keep trying. How wonderful to know that God is the same way! God is even MORE ready to give to us than our strong desire to give to our own children. How cool is that!

As God often does, because of God's grace and mercy, God turned my mistakes into joy. Almost six years ago I became a father again. I received two more children, along with a wife. It was a package deal that I gladly accepted. While the law and our culture would identify my fathering relationship with them by including the prefix "step" before the word father, as far as I am concerned, they are a part of me, too. While blended families are very, very challenging, I think we've done it pretty darn well.

Through all the ups and downs of being a father, I believe that if you ask any of my children if their father loves them, I believe (and pray) there won't be any hesitation.

I love my kids with every molecule in my body. Even if I don't always show it like I would like to, I think they really do believe it.

Outside of my titles as a "Christian" and "husband," fatherhood is simply the best thing I have going for myself. I have been blessed with four wonderful children. Each one is unique and amazing. They bring me a constant supply of laughter and joy that blesses my heart in immeasurable ways. I can't imagine my life without them.

I knew that fatherhood would be something special as I watched that patch go from white to bright pink. I just didn't know how much it would exceed my wildest expectations. To all the fathers of Arise Church, be proud of your title as father. And remember, you'll never be a perfect father. Perhaps 1 Corinthians 13:13 says it all...

For now there are faith, hope, and love. But of these three, the greatest is love.

With you on the journey,

Rev. Don Weatherup

Church Music: Contemporary Praise Songs

By Kevin Griffin (Third in a series)



As the thundering drums, thumping bass and screaming electric guitar wind down another praise song, one person in the congregation breathes a sigh of relief while another thinks, "Let's sing that again!" This month's church music history will cover modern praise music.

Contemporary praise songs can

probably trace their beginnings to the 1960's and the Jesus Movement with the writing of worship music set to the, then, hip music. A lot of the songs could be considered folk music and writers like Ralph Carmichael, Kurt Kaiser and others filled small praise books with new songs for youth groups and young adults. (Some songs have even found their way into the UM Hymnal!) Musically, these songs are very similar to the gospel songs of the previous century with simple harmonies and chords, and repeated choruses; perfect for strumming a guitar and singing at informal settings.

As we move into this age of "contemporary music", we see another shift in song content. Whereas hymns and early gospel songs generally referred to God or Jesus in the third person, modern songs often refer to God in the first person; God is acknowledged as present with us while we sing. That is to say, much of modern music is sung to Jesus while much of the older music was sung about Jesus. While exceptions can be found, this is an interesting change in focus that intimates to the real presence of God in our midst while we worship in song.

There's a common argument heard in some quarters that modern choruses are lacking a scriptural base. I would beg to differ as much of contemporary praise lyrics are drawn from scripture; it's just paraphrased or alluded to by the use of modern examples. Or another critique is that modern songs don't delve into deep theology as compared to the great hymns. Again, modern music communicates biblical truths and doctrines without all of the technical jargon. What also must be remembered is that the purpose of a praise chorus isn't to line out deep doctrinal truth in four verses but rather to engage the participant in emotive worship of Jesus, here and now.

A great example of this is the song, "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High". It is sung to Jesus. It outlines the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus in modern language. It's the essential gospel message, a form of worship, in an easily sung tune. There are many ways to praise God and Jesus, and contemporary praise music is one that many people find very meaningful.

Meet the Band

Our Youth Praise Band has grown. Meet our current members and let them know what a great job they are doing in leading us in worship every month.

Lead singer and guitarist, Eric Tice, is a student at Washtenaw Community College, planning a career in nursing. In his spare time, Eric enjoys hanging with friends and playing with his local band, called Boherald.

Dan Guyon plays keyboard. He plans to be an accompanist at Arise for part of this summer, then will head down to Georgia Tech in Atlanta to pursue his Master's degree in electrical engineering. When he's not studying or playing music, Dan enjoys sailing.

Amber Pagano, a soloist and the newest member of the band, is a freshman at Washtenaw Community College. After she gets her Associate's Degree, she plans to transfer to Ferris State University to pursue a degree in Sonography. Amber enjoys scrapbooking in her spare time.

Chris Martinez plays percussion and is a junior at Pinckney High School. He enjoys music and in his spare time, he plays in the band Boherald with Eric. Chris also enjoys experimenting with electronic computer music.

Thank you, band members, for enthusiastically sharing your gift of music at Arise!



CHURCH NEWS

Local Visit by Liberian Rev. Nelly Wright

By Vicki Dawson

The Rev. Nelly Wright from the St. John River District in Liberia visited with Arise on Wednesday evening, May 7 at the lovely home of Donna and Tom Terhune. We had a small, intimate gathering with great food, fellowship and easy, open discussion about life in Liberia. She explained to us how much "my people" need and truly appreciate the mission outreach of their Christian brothers and sisters at Arise as well as the UMC Ann Arbor District. Nellie told grueling accounts of great tragedy and loss since the war has ravaged their land since 1990. She told of people who have been robbed of everything they own, but still come to worship on Sundays, even naked, because their clothes were stolen and their houses destroyed. She explained that the naked people stay outside the church and reach in for prayer, healing, love and grace. She spoke of children dying from sickness and people doing whatever they have to do to eat and survive, sometimes making very difficult life and death decisions. Nellie explained that they have survived by the love of God and with strong faith and immense hope.

Her message to us was one of hope, faith and true belief in the love of God and His grace poured out on us, despite awful circumstances. Nellie was able to put a face on the children of God in Liberia and to visualize for us the reason for our mission outreach programs.

Nellie, as the new appointed Youth and Young Adult Director in Liberia, will take home with her a love offering from Arise that will support her efforts in developing a Youth Training and Retreat Center in Monrovia, the capital city in Liberia. It is her vision that young Liberians will be able to go to the center for fun, youth events and learn trades and skills that can help them in career development, such as carpentry and sewing. It is her dream that they will have computers, carpentry tools and sewing machines with the help of their Arise partners in faith.

It was with great honor and privilege that I was able to be in Nellie's presence, such a powerful disciple of God. She is the true description of a hero.

Public Relations Task Force

A public relations task force was formed this spring after Council recommended that a group be formed to look at ways to increase Arise Church's visibility in the community and to evaluate advertising and marketing opportunities.

Members of this group are April Flanagan, Beth Plachta, Al Smith, Don Weatherup and Barbara Wood. The first task is to coordinate the sale of T-shirts and other casual wear with the Arise Church logo on them to our congregation. Apparel will be made available for display for several weeks this summer, so watch for notice of this sale, coming soon. Arrangements are being made so that other articles of clothing people may want embroidered or silk screened with the logo can be customized, also. It is hoped that a lot of people will wear these shirts at community events, etc. to help publicize our church presence.

Pastor Don queries all new attendees to determine how they found out about Arise. Overwhelmingly, people attend because they know someone in the congregation. Secondly, they see the sign on our property and lastly, they have seen the website. The more visible, friendly and inviting we are, the more people we hope to attract, so continue to invite friends and neighbors to join us!

Lastly, the task force is looking at inexpensive and effective means of advertising Arise. We are confirming that we have ads on local on-line church directory sites and checking on costs of other advertising media. In addition, ideas like having a table with a church "ambassador", banner and brochures at community events, walking in the Pinckney parades and ways we can draw people to Arise Acres with special events are all possibilities. If you would be willing to be an "ambassador" at a community event or have ideas about how to make Arise more visible in the community, talk to one of the task force members. We welcome your ideas.

Haiti Café Fund Raiser Great Success!

By C.J. Bollinger

Good day Arisiganders! C.J. here telling you about God Squad's "Haiti Café" fund raiser. This was held on the 27th of April, the day after the God Squad made the soup. We sold a total of 500 dollars worth of soup and bread to go towards Haiti school hot lunches. The God Squad would like to thank everyone who helped make the food. We would also like to thank all of you who helped in prayer and in attending the Haiti Café.

Thank you.



New Worship Center Update

The work on the new Arise Worship Center continues, now that the weather is warmer. Recent work includes:

- The classroom addition has been insulated
- The cinder block work has been completed to create door openings for the multipurpose worship area
- The final grading of the sanctuary dirt floor; vapor barrier and wire mesh have been laid in preparation for the concrete to be poured soon

Much of the remaining work will be completed by contractors, interspersed with help from volunteers. With the right mix of volunteers and contributions we might even be done by winter!

Thank you for everyone's support of this *Build as We Give* project to create our own worship facility on Arise Acres.



Dorothy and Paul... continued from pg. 1

Star, Daughters of the Nile and Amaranth. Suffice it to say that her awards and positions of leadership are too numerous to mention here. Perhaps the biggest honor is that she is currently Grand Associate Matron of the Order of Amaranth of Michigan and next year she will be the Grand Royal Matron. Not bad for a lady who just turned 80! She also wants to thank everyone at Arise for their help and love since they've been here. "You can't find a better bunch of people than those at Arise," she says with conviction.

Paul Smith is another person you look at and think "He can't be 80!" He agrees and says "I still feel like I'm in my 60's. I golf three times a week and still work one day a week at Stockbridge Pharmacy." Paul's birthday was May 11 and wife Jewell's family gave him a big surprise party in Escanaba, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Paul grew up in the Methodist Church in Middleville, Mich., near Grand Rapids. As a youth, he sang in the choir. Some things never change—he's been a member of the Arise choir for years.

He attended MSU, and then transferred to the U of M School of Pharmacy. After graduation, from 1952 – 53, he was a U.S. Army Corporal in Salzburg, Austria. He served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) in the Security Section. "This was during the Cold War," Paul explains, "and Austria was occupied by the British, Americans and Russians who controlled different geographic areas. "I remember going through the Russian section one time. Some of us had gotten on the wrong train and it was obvious that I was an American soldier. A Russian soldier wanted to take us off the train, but luckily, the German conductor talked them out of it. This was during an era when, if that had happened, we would have just disappeared."

Fortunately, that didn't happen and Paul returned to the States to embark on his career, working 17 years for Eli Lilly. He also owned the Hamburg Pharmacy from 1973 - 81, living on Little Crooked Lake in Hamburg. Jewell lived in Whitmore Lake and he was introduced to her by a mutual friend. The two have been married for 34 years now. "When I first met Jewell, I had a boat and she loved to water ski—slalom—on one ski!" he exclaimed proudly. "I never got that good at it myself." Living on Cordley Lake now, Paul and Jewell still enjoy being by the water and Paul also likes reading, gardening, fishing and small building projects. Together, they have set a goal to read the Bible in 90 days – currently, they're on day 22!

Unity in Ann Arbor used to be their church home, but they came to Arise after being contacted during the telephone campaign. "We became charter members and we're still here!" says Paul.

Since coming to Arise, Paul and Jewell have contributed in many ways. Jewell taught the Discover Your Gifts class and was on the Prayer Team. She has also been active in women's activities, being designated the spiritual growth leader for the UMW in past years. In addition to the choir, Paul is active in the Men's Huddle and has been seen cooking in the kitchen for Easter Sundays, Women's Retreats and during the Potato Feast.

Happy Birthday, Dorothy and Paul! You're an inspiration to all of us.

ARISE PEOPLE

Congratulations, Graduates!

Arise has five graduates this year—two from the same family!



Jim Osborne graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Master of Arts in December 2007. His major was Education of the Emotionally Impaired and he hopes to teach elementary special education in the fall. Jim has been a substitute teacher in Pinckney schools while returning for his degree.



Casey Tannka, daughter of Gail and Jim Osborne, graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelor of Arts on May 10. She has a major in Communications and a minor in Spanish. She has applied for a position with her sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, as field staff, helping various chapters and starting new

ones at colleges and universities throughout the U.S. If she doesn't get that position, she will be going to Disney World in Orlando, Florida in August for their college program, which she hopes will lead to a full-time position.



Melissa Vaden is graduating from Pinckney High School and planning on attending Schoolcraft college for her basics in Biology. From there, she plans to go on to Michigan State for a degree in Zoology. Melissa's family is comprised of parents, Karen and Jeff Vaden and brother, Brad. Melissa has been an active member of the Arise Youth Group.



Josiah Woods is graduating from Pinckney High School and heading to the U of M Flint campus in the fall. He will be taking independent studies in music with his eye on a music performance major in trumpet, once he gets accepted into that program. Josiah's family includes his parents, George and Sue, along with brother Micah and Josiah's four sisters. Josiah has been an active member of the Arise Youth Group.



Dan Guyon graduated from MSU in December, 2007 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering; see Meet the Band article on page 5 for more details. Congratulations to all of our graduates on working hard to reach their goals. We wish them the best as they move into new careers and adventures!

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord

They are 5 year olds through 5th graders. They love to sing. All 12 of them are boys, but girls are welcome to join them!



Who are they? They're God's Kids—Arise's newest choir. And their fearless leader is Merilee Zane, a 5th grade school teacher at Ridgewood Elementary in Northville, who is well prepared to lead this group in song during Arise worship.

"One of my earliest memories as a child was of singing; specifically singing Sunday School songs in church," she recalls. "I'd like the kids at Arise to have that experience. Music is a universal language—it transcends the ages and is such an expression of thanksgiving and gratefulness."

The God's Kids practice on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. and sing on the 4th Sunday. Merilee says that they could really use an accompanist for their practices and for performing. "A keyboardist would be a great help. It's cumbersome using the CD's when you want to go back to a part and practice it again. It would also be nice to have an adult familiar with music join us for practices. We could break the younger kids out from the older ones and go over the parts with each group."

"The boys asked to sing during the first summer service out at the barn on June 1", she adds," so we'll do that and then take a break for the summer." She plans to have T-shirts made for them in the fall and would love to return as their leader if family commitments allow.

What she envisions for the God's Kids is a mid-week L.I.F.E. Team concept that would include Bible study, recreation, dinner and music. That would take volunteers and planning, but making children's programming a top priority at Arise is one of her passions. As well as the love of singing...and the God's Kids couldn't agree more.

JUNE 2008 CALENDAR

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right. HE USUALLY HAS A SON WHO THINKS HE'S WRONG.

—Charles Wadsworth

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Band Program and

will be taking a music course in college. The

Scholarship was started

in 2004 and we have

awarded more than

graduates thus far.

Contact Wayne &

Mary Ellen Kieb for

(810) 844-0289.

more information at

\$1,500 to 5 deserving

God's Big Backyard: VBS August 11-15

We are very excited about this year's Vacation Bible School, God's Big Backyard, which focuses on serving others and Jesus. Please mark your calendars and invite all of the children you know. There will be a lot of extra special visitors on Tuesday evening—the furry, scaly, and feathered type who live in backyards around the world. Also, our mission this year is called "Nothing but Nets" (an NBA and United Methodist effort to protect people from Malaria by providing mosquito netting). Let's work together to make this year's VBS a meaningful and memorable experience for all of us-especially our precious little ones! Please contact Vicki Dawson or Jen Wagner if you'd like to help in any way.



Arise Ministry Center 11211 Dexter-Pinckney Rd. Pinckney, MI 48169

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June Anniversaries

6/2 Bob & Brenda Whalen 6/16 Peter & Sherry Graham 6/21

- Don & Jane Fuller Happy 50th!
- 6/23 Don & Shelley Weatherup

June Birthdays

6/5	Tim Richards
6/12	Brad Topp
6/18	Jen Wagner

- 6/20 Paul Pagano, Jr. 6/28 Sally Guyon
- 6/29 Mark Wood

ARISE NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editorial: April Flanagan, Beth Plachta Layout/Design: Barbara Wood Photographer: Jan Richards Distribution: the Primetimers

Thanks to all who contribute; please contact us with your feedback and suggestions!

• Arise Connections is available online and in color at www.arisechurch.org •