

Newsletter 04.23.26

One of Rita's and I's favorite shows is *The Great Pottery Throwdown*. If you've never seen it, it is a British show where a bunch of amateur potters compete by making vases, statues, toilets, and birdbaths. It truly is a delightful show as everyone is supportive of each other. Even when people "fail" the challenge there is a sense of accomplishment and pride. Really, if you get a chance, you should watch it! It is a heartwarming, pure comfort television show.

In every episode they make it a point to show that pottery is a difficult art. The smallest moment of carelessness can cause the clay to spin off the wheel. A moment of distraction can cause the clay to dry too hard for decoration. Inexactness can lead to the clay exploding in the kiln. Time and time again it is hammered into the audience's brains that potters must be careful, attentive, and patient. It takes a lot of work to make even the simplest dish.

Whenever I watch *The Great Pottery Throwdown*, I can't help but think of Isaiah 64:8. The prophet writes, "Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." I love that view of God, especially as I watch more British potters make clay cuckoo clocks.

If God is a potter, then it means we are carefully and wonderfully made. God has put effort into us and has crafted us. We are not accidents, because no one accidentally makes a vase. We are made by a Creator who cares.

One of the sweetest things in *The Great Pottery Throwdown* is how everyone gets emotional when looking at their completed projects. Tears are not uncommon as the judges look upon vases and bathroom sinks. Everyone's hearts are just so full of pride and love for their creations that they have to express it.

I think God does the same. God has put so much effort and care into us, I imagine that God must feel pride and love towards us. How could an artist not feel that way towards their creation?

So maybe the next time you are feeling a little misshapen or unfinished, a little cracked around the edges or unsure of your purpose, remember whose hands you are in. The Potter has not abandoned the wheel. The work is not done yet. There is still shaping, still smoothing, still refining happening in ways we cannot always see or understand. And just like those potters on that silly British show, God is patient with the process. God does not rush, does not give up, and does not toss aside what is still becoming something beautiful.

Take heart. Be patient. Trust the hands that are shaping you. Because in the end, we are not just lumps of clay spinning aimlessly. We are being formed, lovingly and intentionally, into something that will one day reflect the care, creativity, and goodness of the One who made us.

God Bless, Pastor Ed

Disciples and Dragons Youth Group Is meeting every other Sunday at 6 PM

TOPS Club meets at LUMC on Mondays, 4:00 PM, Room 206, use north east door.

Online giving is available for your convenience
Scan the QR code for the direct link. Also, at lakevilleumc.org



Thank You

Thank you so much for hosting our cast and crew for a fun cast party! We had such a good time and are so grateful for you and the kindness you show us.

Thanks, LaVille Drama Club

Thanks to each of you who remembered me with prayers and cards during my recent surgery and illness. I appreciate your caring and concern. Karol Carbiener

Food Pantry Needs: pancake mix, ketchup, saltine crackers, cereal – all kinds, jelly or jam, peanut butter, dish washing soap, soup with meat, ranch dressing, jello, toilet paper

The Food Pantry is open to anyone in the Union North school district as well as to our church family on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 3 – 6 PM

Sunday Fellowship Time Refreshments Schedule

Apr 26 _____ May 3 _____

May 10 M & M Circle

Sign up at the bulletin board outside the
kitchen door.

Sunday Kids Church Schedule

Apr 26 Rita May 3 Communion

May 10 _____

Sign up at the bulletin board outside the
kitchen door.

Looking Ahead

Rummage Sale – Friday, April 24 – 8:30 AM – 1 PM

Bake Sale Drop Off – Friday, April 24, 5 – 5:30 PM

Rummage/Bake Sale – Saturday, April 25, 8:30 AM – 1 PM

Euchre/Game Night – Saturday, April 25, 6 – 8 PM

Disciples & Dragons Youth Group – Sunday, April 26, 6-8 PM

Food Pantry – Tuesday, April 28, 3-6 PM

Disciples & Dragons – Sunday, May 3, 6-8 PM

Mary Magdalene Mission Circle – Tuesday, May 5, 7 PM

Cleaning kitchen & refrigerators

Missions/Evangelism Meeting – Thursday, May 7, 6:30 PM

Mother Daughter Banquet – Saturday, May 9, 6 PM

Ad Council Meeting – Monday, May 11, 6:30 PM

Blood Drive – Tuesday, May 12, 2:30 PM at Palmer's

Food Pantry – Tuesday, May 12, 3-6 PM

Disciples & Dragons – Sunday, May 17, 6-8 PM