



COALVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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August 2025 Newsletter



From the Pen of Bro. Len

The Church Is the Place

My father believed that taking a vacation should be an adventure, so his means of picking a vacation spot was somewhat unusual. He would take a map of a geographical area and tape it to the bathroom door. He would stand in front of the kitchen and throw a dart at the map. Wherever the dart stuck, that's where we went on vacation. This time the vacation spot was in the Smokie Mts outside of Cherokee NC. As we navigated our way to this "place," Dad would take detours up "pig-trails" that ran all through the mountains. On one of our detours, we came to the end of the "pig-trail" where a country store and homestead was located. There was a big, wooden Indian out front surrounded by all kinds of stuff for two young boys to play with. Dad went inside to look around. After a few minutes, I went inside to find him. He was standing in front of something hung on a nail on a wall. In a picture frame there was a piece of brown sandwich paper scrawled in thick pencil these words: "I was looking for a place like no other place when I found this place. This place is like no other place; therefore, this place must be the place I was looking for."

My Dad was curious and asked the owner about the sign. He replied: "I was born to a very wealthy family out East. I had all the advantages of wealth and the pleasures that wealth could offer. I was called to serve in WWI and did. When I returned after living through the horrors of the war, I was lost. I

couldn't find peace or satisfaction anywhere in anything or anyone, so, I left home and started walking across country to the West Coast. It took awhile as I stopped along the way to work. I finally made it to the West Coast and even stayed for awhile working and traveling around looking for a "place" where I could find peace for my troubled soul. I realized I wouldn't find it out West, so I started walking back towards home. I had resigned myself to the thought that I wouldn't find peace, so, I might as well go back home. I was traveling through this area and as it began to get dark, I pitched my tent and spent the night. When I woke up, it was just breaking day. I got up and walked over to a ledge and sat down. The mists were still lingering in the valley as the sun peaked over the top of the ridge. I heard birds chirping and saw nature waking up to a new day just as I was...Something inside me said—**"This is the Place!"** I had that piece of sandwich paper in my knapsack as well as my carpenter's pencil and I sat down and wrote what I was thinking..."**I was looking for a place like no other place when I found this place. This place is like no other place; therefore, this place must be the place I was looking for.** In time I purchased this place and raised my family here and built this store." He took Dad and Richard and me to the "place" where he wrote the words. It was behind his store and down a well worn path to a ledge that overlooked a valley. It was breathtaking in beauty and I could understand why he wrote the words he did.

I think those words should be written over every church. **People are looking for a "Place."** A "place" where they are accepted

and appreciated. A “place” where they can find peace to their troubled soul. The church we are looking at on Sunday mornings in the Book of Acts was just that kind of Place. Why was it that kind of “place?” The success of the early church wasn’t guaranteed, it was won through the selfless, sacrificial devotion and commitment of the members of that church. They could have surrendered to the fear that obviously surrounded the events of the Crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus or they could have run into the hills to live an isolated existence until they died or Jesus returned, but they didn’t. They knew they had unfinished business to complete in order to honor Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior. They found a way to be faithful and turn the world upside down.

The foundation of the church sits upon four

(4) Pillars: 1. Preaching/teaching the Word of God 2. Working together in Mission & ministry 3. Fellowship & Communion 4. Prayers As the church engaged in these activities, they discovered that “Together was better.” Broken and wounded people gathered together in their faith and experienced the Power of the Holy Spirit and the joy that comes when we yield ourselves unto the Lord in mission & ministry. They lived out the command of the Lord found in Hebrews 10:24-25...”And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another and all the more as we see the Day (of the Lord) drawing near. And, by living out the mission of the Lord to go and make disciples, the church became a powerful movement for the King and His Kingdom.

What will it take for us to become a powerful movement for the King & His Kingdom? Let me close with this article I read many years ago...Are we a “cruise ship” or an “aircraft carrier” church?

People who attend “cruise ship churches,” much like cruise ship passengers, often come to be entertained and catered to by the staff. Very little is expected of these church attendees. In fact, they tend to rate the quality of their experience – the music, the sermon and the way it made them feel – much like cruise ship

*passengers rate their satisfaction with various aspects of their trip. Cruise ship churches tend to be internally focused on the needs of their regularly attending members. The main goal in these churches, as on a cruise ship, is to keep the “customer” happy and the complaints to a minimum. Leaders in a cruise ship church focus on the existing members rather than pursuing those far from God or encouraging others to do so. Very little of a church’s calendar, training or communication is spent on activities to reach the lost or help those in need outside the church. There are, however, churches that are more like **aircraft carriers**. These churches are designed to empower all members to find their God-given purpose in life, to equip them and to send them on missions into the world to reach and serve those who don’t know Jesus, much like the crew of an aircraft carrier is all about launching military planes and equipping them well to carry out successful missions. Did you know an aircraft carrier is the same size as many cruise ships, housing thousands of people? But what distinguishes an aircraft carrier ship isn’t its size; it’s the efficiency on the flight deck. The crew of an aircraft carrier can launch a plane every 25 seconds—all in a fraction of the space of a typical landing strip. The mission pervades every aspect of the ship. From the pilot to the person who restocks the ship’s vending machines, everyone on a carrier knows his or her particular role and how it supports the mission—to equip, prepare, launch and receive aircraft back from their crucial assignments. An “aircraft carrier church” has a clear mission that stems from the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. Everyone in the church knows why their church exists and plays a role in the mission.*

I pray that we become an “aircraft carrier church!” Instead of just meandering, we are living on mission! Instead of just living for pleasure we are focused on our God-given purpose. Instead of just cruising through life, we are committed to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission as you commit to gather, grow, give and go with the gospel.

Remember this...**I was looking for a Place like no other Place when I found this place. This place is like no other place, so this place must be the place I was looking for.**

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Brothers and Sisters of Coalville, hopefully you are experiencing a movement of joy and growth. Yes, God is answering our prayers. In

worship service we see new faces from the community, more young persons and children, and hear that prayers are being answered for healing and meeting needs. Hallelujah!

Just as the sun is necessary for growth on this planet, so is His '**SON**' essential for our spiritual growth. Just as some living things must be pruned in order to grow more and produce fruit, so must we, His living creation be pruned to remove any hindrances to our spiritual growth.

We must 'daily' intentionally **let go....so we can grow.**

Here are 4 keys to spiritual growth:

Worship, fellowship, service, and evangelism. They help the individual connect with God, build the community, contribute to others, and share faith.

May you experience spiritual growth as you read and pray these scriptures.

August 3rd – 9th: Knowing His Word is essential in growing spiritually. 2 Peter 3:18

August 10th – 16th: May your spiritual appetite grow more for Him. 1 Peter 2:2

August 17th – 23rd: Only with a relationship with God can you grow spiritually. 1 Corinthians 3:6 – 7

August 24th – 30th: Just as a stream waters the trees, so must His word water our soul to flourish. Psalm 1:1 – 3

Our church will continue to grow as we experience a deeper spirit – filled walk with Him.



*It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to **RoSharon Bahm** who passed on July 28, 2025.*

She was a faithful member and friend to Coalville UMC for over 50 years.

She was loved by many and we will cherish the sweet memories of Mrs. RoSharon.

Funeral Arrangements: Saturday, August 2nd,
visitation: 1 – 2 PM, service: 2 PM



Shan Foster had surgery on her foot last week and is doing well.

CORNERSTONE

Hello from Cornerstone! Welcome to August. Thank you to all who came out, helped, and supported our event with The Sons of Allen for the Seashore Mission. It's always a blessing to have Bro Steve and his group sing with us, but we also had the privilege of enjoying the music of "2 For Him," a female Christian duet. We raised over \$630 for the mission.

We are still enjoying the fellowship of the combined service and look forward to the 5th Sunday luncheon on the 31st. Hope to see you all there.

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits— Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's...Psalm 103:1 – 5, NIV

From Jan

VBS was awesome. This mission outreach to teach children about Jesus and His word is so important. This year we had 40 kids! For some this is the only time they hear about Jesus. We thank God for this opportunity.

Youth

Our annual summer spiritual retreat was such a blessing! Our theme for the weekend was *Sing While You are Shackled*....all about the power of praise. And praise, we did. All weekend we had some amazing worship, fellowship, fun, food, all while digging in the word of God. We want to thank Mrs. Barb Jones for her prayers and for making all of us some special praise scripture bookmarks. We all loved them!



Kaden, Matthew, Gage, Draco
Caleb, Chloe, Courtney, Kylee
Kolleen, Catherine



**Tim, Michael H., Michael R.
Megan, Tiffany, Gabby, Beth**

David, Becky, Jan, Donald



Night of WORSHIP



Anniversaries

Birthday

Monthly Events

Scheduled Meetings

Weekly Events

CLC – Christian Life Center

FH – Fellowship Hall

S – Sanctuary

CW – Contemporary Worship

TW – Traditional Worship

AB – Administrative Board

BG – BUNCO Group

CB – Cornerstone Band

CC – Cemetery Committee

FISH – Young Adults

JAM – Children's Ministry

MT – Mission Team

SL – Senior Luncheon

UMYF - Youth

August 2025						
◀ July						September ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Michael Vereker 7 PM, AA, FH	2 Chelsea Butler Ted Keller
3 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF & FISH, CLC	4	5 Walker Dyer Gwen Husley Diana Ludlow 11:30 AM, SL 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	6 Juan Cobar Michael & Emily Dyer	7	8 7 PM, AA, FH	9
10 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF & FISH, CLC	11 6 PM, AB, FH	12 Chris Laut 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	13	14 12 – 3 PM, BG, FH	15 7 PM, AA, FH	16
17 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S Lulu Mitchell 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF & FISH, CLC	18	19 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	20	21	22 7 PM, AA, FH	23
24 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S Julia Mitchell Rita Smith 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF & FISH, CLC	25	26 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	27	28 Kyle Phillips Stan Peterson	29 Jerry Gardner Carolyn McGrew 7 PM, AA, FH	30
31 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 11 AM, Potluck, CLC 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF & FISH, CLC	Backpack Blessings 08/03 – Beanie Weanies 08/10 – Ramen noodles 08/17 – Ravioli 08/24 – tuna 08/31 – mac & cheese					