



Love God, Love People and Serve Together

“Together in the Gospel: Open Arms Ministry”

April 14, 2024

Yesterday we started a new journey for the next three weeks called Together. **TOGETHER** is the mindset that God has fashioned us all into our different abilities that, when we use them **TOGETHER**, we are able to move mountains. There is no doubt that God has gifted us with many different talents and abilities that when separated may only be able to impact a small area. However, when those gifts and abilities are used **TOGETHER**, they are able to formulate a larger and more intentional area of impacting the world for Jesus.

Today, I want to speak to a new vision and idea that came out of our Church Leadership Training in January called **Open Arms Ministry**. The vision behind the ministry was that God has gifted us with many opportunities to serve here with our facilities at Wynnton, and we want to honor God’s calling and use them for the glory of God. Since I have been here, I have heard people speak of our amazing hospitality at Wynnton, and trust me, I have seen it with my own eyes. Looking at the Ministry Center alone, I can envision God using this platform to impact the lives of many in the community of Midtown Columbus. Over the last two years, I have heard of people desiring to be the hands and feet of God by fulfilling Jesus’ invitation to serve from Matthew 25:34-36. We have been called to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, clothe those in need, invite strangers into our house, take care of the sick, and visit those in their own personal prisons (physical, mental or spiritual).

On the first Saturdays of the month, May 4th and June 1st, we will test the waters by providing a meal for those that are in need. This will be a simple meal that will provide a couple of things to our community. First, it will let the community know that we want to meet their needs and connect with them in person. Second, it will provide for us an opportunity to connect and find out what some of the deeper needs of our community truly are. Third, it will give us a better picture of what we need to do in preparation to fully launch this ministry in the fall. As we discern and pray about this opportunity to be the hands and feet of God, we know that there is a learning curve that we will need to evaluate. We know that there are many unknowns that will arise, but we are willing to take a step of faith and give God the opportunity to show us how we can better serve our community on a more regular basis.

In saying this, we also need your help!! We have a small group who has been meeting over the last couple of months to help plan and organize our first event. Seeing as it is a small event that will provide our first connection to our community, we are looking to serve a small meal and create a way to begin a deeper connection with our community. Here are some of the areas where we need help on May 4th and June 1st:

Food Prep & Cookers:

We are in need of people who love to serve by prepping and cooking food. These people will work with the Food Chair to purchase, prep and cook the food for each of our Open Arms Ministry events. Meals will range from soup, sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs. Food Prep and Cooks will be here an hour before the event to begin and will work throughout the event time. **Approximately 3 hours.**

Security:

As we live in a time where I wish we did not need this area of ministry, unfortunately we are in need of those who are willing to help direct and protect our facility. The Security team would be in charge of directing people into the facility from our parking lot and walking around the facility during the event to help maintain a civil event. Security team members would be posted up the hallway and at the main door entrances to ensure that we are able to direct people into the main ministry area. **Approximately 2 hours.**

Service Team:

Our Service team would be the people who love to serve and connect with the people. The Service team is in charge of passing out the food, restocking plates, napkins and drinks as needed, directing people to where they may sit and eat during the duration of the event, and handing out blessing bags as the individuals leave. We are looking for people who love people and can connect through serving others. **Approximately 2 hours.**

Set-Up:

Our Set-up team will work in conjunction with the Food Prep team in helping to preset the facility for the needs of the event. This would be helping to set up more tables and helping to prep the room for the flow of the event. Set-up team would most likely come in the day before or earlier the day of and help us to prepare the room for the best use of space to connect with our community. People of the Set-up team may need to be able to move tables, chairs, and help to formulate the flow for the day’s event. **Approximately 1-2 hours.**

Clean-up:

As we have the opportunity to set up the room for the event, we also need those who are willing to come and clean up after the event. This role would entail helping to put the room back into order in preparation for our Sunday Worship. Clean-up team would also help to clean all dishes, take out trash and help maintain our restrooms as we prepare to invite our members and the community back into our space on Sunday mornings. I know that is the dirty job, but there are people out there that God has given them this calling. **Approximately 1-2 hours.**

Connections:

One of the greatest aspects of these community events is for the people who truly love to connect with the Community. Our Connections team will do just that. During the event, our Connections team will engage with the people and spend time asking how we can serve them better. This is truly the heart of Open Arms Ministry. Just as Jesus met the physical needs before He began to meet their spiritual needs, we too need to understand how we can be a better connection to our community and Jesus. If you never meet a stranger and truly have a heart to connect with people, this is your area in which to serve. **Approximately 2 hours.**

As you can see, there is a lot that will go into being the OPEN ARMS of Jesus. However, if we use our gifts TOGETHER, we become an unstoppable force for the Kingdom of God. If you want to be a part of our TEAM, please contact the church office and let us know how you would like to join TOGETHER to serve in spreading the Gospel of Jesus through Loving God, Loving People and Serving Together. I

In His grip, Jason

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Barbara Blackwell** by Lynda & Bennett Massey

In memory of **Oz White** by Annette Nichols

In memory of **Andy Wise** by Lynda & Bennett Massey

In memory of **Glenda Cannon** by Lynda & Bennett Massey

GIFTS OF LOVE

In honor of **Betty Woodruff on her 90th birthday** by Shirley & John Richey; Pam & Steve Davis

The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of April Wade and June Ward for their birthdays by Jason Wade.

LOVE AND SYMPATHY

To Linda and Wallace Twiggs on the death of her step-sister, Glenda Pitts Cannon, of Deland, FL, on April 8, 2024.



VBS
June 10-14
9:00 a.m.-12 p.m.
Registration
is open!

WYNNTON COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for 2024. The scholarship is for members of Wynnton pursuing any field of study at an accredited school of higher learning. Applications, along with guidelines for the scholarship, are now available in the church office. All applications must be received in the church office no later than **May 12, 2023**. For further information, please call the church office at 706-324-2424.

March Financial Statement

Contributions to the Church	\$72,890.79
Expenses of the Church	\$60,136.45
Our March Gain was	\$12,754.34
Our Year to Date Deficit is	\$6,804.42

Family Night Supper

Wednesday, May 1
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Reservations will be required.
More information to come.

BACKPACKS OF GRACE



Backpacks of Grace is an amazing opportunity that we have to minister to children in our area. Last semester, we served 103 children from Wynnton Arts Academy on a weekly basis. We are always in need of fruit cups, individually packaged snacks (goldfish crackers, pretzels, scooby-snacks, pudding cups, etc.), individually packaged breakfast (cereal, oatmeal, or grits), or financial contributions so that we can purchase these items. Please consider helping.

BASIC ERT TRAINING & CHAINSAW SAFETY CLASS

Friday, April 26 | 6 pm - 10 pm ET
Saturday, April 27 | 8 am to 12 pm ET
Pierce Chapel

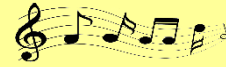
5122 Pierce Chapel Rd, Midland, GA 31820

Register now

You must register online before April 22nd

More information can be found at www.sgaumc.org
If you have any questions, contact Bob Gilstrap.

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!



John 3:16

For God So Loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The meaning of the words from John: 3:16 is so well-loved that some Christians recognize March 16, as "John 3:16 Day!"

Max Lucado describes John 3:16 as a twenty-six-word parade of hope. In his book 3:16 *The Numbers of Hope*, Lucado writes: "Every time I recall these words, they are as fresh and shining as my first encounter with them." John 3:16 proclaims who Jesus is and why he came. It represents many things such as: love, acceptance, belonging, hope, sacrifice, forgiveness, and the promise of salvation for believers.

John Stainer wrote his powerful, well-known hymn *God So Loved the World* in 1887. His hymn served as inspiration to the more than a hundred choral anthems, many of which include his original melody. This Sunday, our Chancel Choir will sing Benjamin Harlan's arrangement of "God So Loved the World." Harlan uses flowing lines in the voices and accompaniment, and treats his use of the original hymn by Stainer with gentleness and respect.

"God So Loved the World" arr. by Benjamin Harlan
(Based on John 3:16-17)

God so loved the world, He so loved that He gave His only begotten Son, that all who believeth, believeth in Him should not perish, should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son to condemn. God sent not His Son to condemn; but that through Him we might be saved.

God so loved the world. He so loved that He gave His only begotten Son, that all who believeth, believeth in Him shall have eternal life. God so loved the world. God so loved the world.

God's Great Peace to You!

Diana B.

Flower Delivery

Carol Hammock



***ATTENTION ALL YOUTH PARENTS!!!**

- Sunday School 10 a.m. in the Basement
- 211 Faith Connection Sunday at 5:00 p.m.
- Prayer Breakfast 7:00-7:30 a.m. -Chick-fil-A - Whittlesey Rd.
- Youth Praise Band Wednesday 4:30-5:30 p.m.
- River of Life \$50 Deposit is PAST Due so please see Jason ASAP.
- Summer Camp Dates June 2nd-8th
- School Lunch Visits will begin AFTER Spring Break
- Wednesday Night Bible Study Tonight 7pm at AOC 4817 Milgen Road.



THE BRIDGE COLLEGE MINISTRIES

If anyone would like to help support our Bridge College Ministry through providing food for these amazing students each week, please contact Jason and let him know you would like to help. Secondly, if you would like to give funds towards our weekly meal, you can give through our normal giving options and earmark it for Bridge College Ministries. We are having between 20-25 college students on Thursday Nights at 7:30 pm. Thank you for your continued prayers for God to open doors into these students' lives.

In His grip,
Jason

NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CONNECTION

Attention All Young Families, Singles & Young Adults

We have had a GREAT start with our new class. One of our major focuses is providing ministry opportunities to those who are seeking community and connection. This is an opportunity for those who may be a young family, a single at church or a single adult to come and have a conversation about how we can meet your needs and launch new discipleship ministries. Please join us in the Ministry Center/Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. EVERY SUNDAY to continue the conversations as we prepare to LAUNCH into the new year together.
In His grip, Jason

GRADUATES



Please call the church office (706-324-2424) with information on those who are completing degrees at the College or Graduate School level. We would like to mention them in the bulletin.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Nursery

8:30 am - 12:15 pm
Infants - Age 2
First Floor Grimes Building

Sunday School

9:45-10:50 am
3-year-olds - Fifth Grade
First Floor Grimes Building



Children's Church

11:00 am - 12:00 pm (after Children's Sermon)
3-year-olds - Fifth Grade
First Floor Grimes Building
**Parents, please make sure to check in with our registration system (hallway or Children's Center)



We're looking for volunteers for the Modern Worship Service. If you play an instrument or sing, feel free to join us at our practices every Friday from 5-8 p.m. in the Ministry Center.



Please use the QR code to sign up to volunteer to serve in the Modern service.



We had a great Packing Party last October with 277 boxes packed and turned in. For April, we are focusing on collecting **new ball caps and knit hats**. If at any time you find a good deal on anything we collect, please let Pam (pgilstrap70@gmail.com) know so we can let others know where to find that item. Sewing kits \$5.00 at Hobby Lobby.

Keep in mind, these items are **not** allowed: soap, toothpaste, candy, liquids, camouflage, and tiny toys/balls.

Our goal is to pack 300 boxes

Items collected:

Toothbrushes: 36

Washcloths: 45

Combs: 20

Hairbrushes: 8

Deodorant: 9 (need 60)

Spreading God's love to children everywhere.

Pam Gilstrap

PRAYER TIME IN THE CHAPEL

Every Wednesday

(Drop in)

12:00-1:00 pm

5:30-6:30 pm



BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of April. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.



OUR DEPLOYED CHURCH MEMBERS AND FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS

Bryant Giang

Adam Walker

If you have a deployed family member and you would like them added to our list, please call the office.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

Week 14



The moment of Pentecost was an amazing opportunity for God to reveal the power of the Holy Spirit for the entire world to see. The birth of the CHURCH was a demonstration of how God's plan was to bring us TOGETHER to have a larger impact to the world. Peter is able to step into the leadership role Christ had spoken of him while He was on earth. We are encouraged to see that God is calling us to walk TOGETHER and recognize that God has a plan for our partnership with the Church to further God's kingdom. Enjoy reading and contemplating on the power of the beginning of the Church.

April 14	Acts 2:1-13
April 15	Acts 2:14-25
April 16	Acts 2:26-41
April 17	Acts 2:42-47
April 18	Acts 3:1-10
April 19	Acts 3:11-26
April 20	Acts 4:1-11

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

14 Donna Campbell, April Wade



OUR ATTENDANCE

4-7-24

8:30 a.m.....	33
9:00 a.m.....	20
11:00 a.m.....	110
Sunday School.....	84

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies April 19-21
Dr. Jason Wade 770-289-4039

OUR STEWARDSHIP

4-7-24

General Fund.....	19,278.00
Backpacks of Grace	250.00
College Ministries.....	525.00
Communion	197.00
Easter Offering.....	100.00
Endowment	75.00
Loose Offering.....	95.00
Missions	50.00
Operation Christmas Child	100.00
Other Income	50.00
Sunday School	68.00
Youth Fund	20.00

COFFEE STATION VOLUNTEERS April 14, 2024



New Seekers

WYNNNTON SAFETY SQUAD April 14, 2024

Team 3: Rob Harbison, Bruce Boretzky,
Bennett Massey, Harry Lubin

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Jennefer Spell
Aubrey Walker	Frank Feagle
David Woolbright	Richard Holmes
Pam Feagle	Shelley Montgomery
Betty Garrett	Sabrina Hart
Jeanine Cotton	Beverly McDaniel
Michelle Foote	Rachael Casar
Kaye Hill	Carrie Thomas
Lynn Christenson	Susan Chriss
Casey Campbell	Walter Cook
Hazel Pope	Ben Smith

Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Family of Bill Cawthorne
Family of Barbara Blackwell
Family of Andy Wise

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Modern Service - Ministry Center
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for adults, youth & children
10:00 am	Young Adult Discipleship Class - Ministry Center
11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	211 Faith Connection - Basement

Monday, April 15

10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study - Library
5:30 p.m.	Bible Study - Home of Beth Hendrickson

Tuesday, April 16

10:00 a.m.	Quilting Group - Alpha Building
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Wednesday, April 17

9:30 a.m.	Women of Joy Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)
5:30 p.m.	Finance Meeting - Alpha Building
6:30 p.m.	Youth Bible Study - Ambassadors of Christ
6:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 18

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study - Alpha Building
9:45 a.m.	Backpacks of Grace
7:30-9:00 p.m.	The Bridge College Bible Study - Basement

Friday, April 19

7:00 -7:30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast & Jesus - Chick-fil-A - Whittlesey Rd.
12:00 p.m.	Goodwill Class Meeting - Ministry Center
5:00-8:00 p.m.	Modern Worship Practice - Ministry Center

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Together in Grace
Philippians 1:7-8

Dr. Jason Wade