

Hey Wynnton Folks!

September 19, 2021

Earlier this month I started a new series on the book of James in our modern worship service. Last Sunday we examined the second half of chapter 2, where James famously (or maybe infamously depending on who you talk to) draws a hard line on the necessity for deeds or “works” to be an integral part of the life of a faithful Christian. He writes “14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”

Martin Luther famously (or infamously!) wanted to remove the book of James from the Bible, due to his perception that its conclusions were in conflict with much of Paul’s teachings on being saved by faith alone. (This is an oversimplification but I’m using it to make a point I promise) Many have posed the question how can both these seemingly contradictory statements can coexist together in scripture. This is a fair question, and one worth contemplating in my opinion.

Part of the faith journey of any Christian inevitably involves paradox, we follow and worship Christ the son of God who is at the same time of the same substance as God, and yet is a distinct person within the Trinity (yet inseparable from the Trinity). We affirm in our United Methodist communion liturgy “Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again”. So Christ is dead, yet risen and ascended, and yet has not come for the final time at this moment in history? Well, in short, yes.

We are saved by our faith alone, this is true. Our faith is proven by the evidence of the Holy Spirit within us, the evidence of the gifts of the Spirit, and yes it is proven by how well we follow Christ. As I approach this passage from James I am convicted as a pastor and a Christian by how often I (and we) fail to show that our faith is alive and well with our actions. This line from Amos 5: 21-24 comes to mind, “I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. 22 Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. 23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. 24 But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!”

It is not only James in the scriptures who is concerned with our works. We find that concern woven throughout the biblical text. Here especially God’s concern with our works leads God to say that their religious festivals and offerings were not enough in the face of their lack of concern and action towards justice! With that in mind, part of our worship experience last Sunday in the modern service was spent in action, by packing hygiene kits to be given out at Wynnton Neighborhood Network. I pray that we as a church can expand on our worship actions, in addition to our worship “services”, as we live out our faith and give our very lives as an offering pleasing to God!

Pax Dei,
Greg



Rory Everett Miller
born September 9, 2021 to
Jordan and Brian Miller

Congratulations to the proud parents and big brothers, Chandler & Raiden.! A rosebud is placed on the altar by the church.

Henry Laurence Forlines
born Sept. 11, 2021 to
Laura and Wesley Forlines

Congratulations to the proud parents! A rosebud is placed on the altar by the church.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of **Rev. Jim Trice** by Margaret & Don Goodroe

IN MEMORIAM

Linda Shakman
September 8, 2021

"In my Father's house are many mansions..."

LOVE AND SYMPATHY

To Donna and Ed Thigpen on the death of her brother-in-law, George Jones, of Cataula, GA, on September 11, 2021.

The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of our church family by Neita & John Denny.

FLOWER DELIVERY

Neita Denny

BASEMENT NEWS



Sept. 19: No Youth

Sept. 26: Dinner and games

Oct. 3: Service Project TBD

For information about the Wynnton Youth Group contact Rob Harbison, (706) 289-3082, r.harbison@mchsi.com

REMEMBER

If, for some reason, you did not receive your weekly Newsletter, you can read it on our website www.wynntonumc.org.

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

As we enter a new season, I would like to take the opportunity to thank those who faithfully contribute to the music ministry at Wynnton. Leading the call is a dynamic duo on piano and organ. The Wynntones, our delightful bell ringers, ring from 6:30 to 7:15 on Wednesday evenings. Our exceptional Wynnton Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:15, and gathers at 10:35 in the choir room before the 11:00 Sunday morning service. Our Wesley Choir (small but mighty) meets in the Sanctuary at 8:00 to rehearse before the 8:30 Sunday morning service. The members of these choirs are very devoted, and strive to give their best to each and every service. There are so many things I love about these choirs and the music ministry at Wynnton! We are modest groups in size, and as such we are able to hear one another and communicate well. This inevitably leads to laughter as we work through rhythm mishaps, pitch discrepancies, and lyric interpretations. There is great acceptance and much empathy as we work toward a common goal. We have many opportunities to know each other through our work and through our fellowship. We rely on each other and God's abundant grace, to prepare anthems for worship so that we may glorify and praise God. We all benefit from the hard work and sacrifice of the Wynnton Choirs. When I count my blessings, the Wynnton Choirs are always on my list! If you love to sing or ring, we have a seat available that we are keeping warm just for you!

This Sunday, September 19, the Wynntones will ring us into worship with a lovely arrangement titled "My Friend Jesus." Incorporating two familiar hymns, *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*, and *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*, this bell piece is both lyric and rhythmic. Our Wynnton choirs will sing a favorite anthem, *Classic Praise*, based on psalm 42:1. This well-crafted anthem pairs the hymn tune, *As the Deer* by Martin Nystrom, with Beethoven's "Adagio" from *Sonata Pathetique*.

"Classic Praise" arr. by Benjamin Harlan

As the deer panteth for the water; so my soul longeth after Thee. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee. As the deer panteth for the water; so my soul longeth after Thee. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee. You alone are my strength my shield; to You, alone, may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee.

You're my friend and You are my brother, even though You are a King. I love You more than any other, so much more than anything. You alone are my strength, my shield; to You, alone, may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee.

Psalm 42:1

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

Diana B.

PECAN SALE

The Joyful Noise Sunday school class is selling pecans again, and we are happy to announce the prices remain the same as last year. Please see any member of the Joyful Noise class to place your order. Our first order is due Oct. 10th, a second order will be placed November 7, and a final order December 5. Thank you for supporting this mission project!

Prices

- 1 lb. halves \$12.00
- 1/2 lb halves \$7.00
- 1 lb. pieces (large, medium, small) \$12.00
- 1/2 lb. chocolates (dark, milk, white) \$8.00

BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! - to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are still looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of October. 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.

NEW!

Parents' Sunday School class 9:45am

Have children still "in the nest"?

You're invited to a new Sunday School community that seeks to encourage, challenge, and grow with others in the child-raising stage of life.

Nursery and children's Sunday School is offered at the same time. Stick around for worship at 11am!



Wynnton UMC | 2412 Wynnton Road



Operation Christmas Child

The Operation Christmas Child boxes will soon be out for you to begin packing.

The final date for turning these boxes in is November 14. I know some of you will be ready for turn in long before that date.

Many of you have already gathered some school supplies, bar of soap, wash cloth, t-shirt, and other special items. Remember that tooth brushes, combs, hair brushes, flip flops are also needed.

Some things to consider: age of child, boy or girl, and some fun items. Fun items might be a harmonica, yo-yo, jump rope, ball, stuffed animal, sewing kit for older girls; deodorant and black, blue or red ball point pens for older children, plain baseball cap for older boys.

Thanks and happy shopping!

Pam

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexie McRae
Glenn Killough	Kathy Draughon
Matthew Allen	Debi Meacham Wright
Anne Turner	Dorothy Robinson
Bobby Porch	Wanda Jones
Lillian Cox	Kerry Mess
Lynn Christenson	Jennefer Spell
Beverly Ragsdale	Jim Accordino
Tom Hart	

Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

- Sandy Dryman & family
- Nancy Hammond & family
- Chris Alexander & family
- Ernest Hale & family
- Agnes Tew & family
- Sharon White & family
- Maria & Joe Bannon & family
- Alice Smith & family
- Family of Joanne Cole
- Family of Rev. Jim Trice
- Family of Richard Geeslin

Save the Date for THIS Sunday: September 19th!

THIS Sunday (19th) at 6pm, we'll have a service of blessing over the Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library on the Lawyers Lane side of our parking lot - right beside the boxes! We will pray, sing, read Scripture, and fill the boxes together for the first time.

It will be a brief service, but you are more than welcome to bring a folding/camp chair with you if sitting is more comfortable!

This service will be our kick off for the filling of the boxes, which means Monday the 20th will begin our volunteer rotation. If you have signed up as a volunteer, double check the sign-up sheet to ensure your correct date - you may want to go ahead and put that date in your calendar each month!

There are two more slots that need to be filled if you or someone you know has been on the fence about signing up! You or they can sign up here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e49aca922a5ff2-wynnnton>

If you have any questions, contact Alaina Harrison at alainaaharrison@gmail.com



The youth started a new Sunday School series on Christian doctrine from the Book of Romans. Please join us!



Children's Programs

Pumpkins are full of goop and gunk when we first open them. In order to use pumpkins as a light to the world, we have to clean them out. When we accept Jesus, he cleans out the gunk we call sin and makes us into something new! 2 Corinthians 16-21

A pumpkin is still a pumpkin until we put a light inside. Then they become something bright, shining a light for kids on Halloween. God wants us to let his light shine in our hearts so the world can know about Jesus.
Matthew 5:13-16

No two pumpkins are shaped alike, and no two jack-o-lanterns look alike. They are all unique, just like us. We were all created uniquely by the God who loves us.
John 12:20-22

The sad thing about jack-o-lanterns is they don't last. They all rot and decay. Our bodies won't last forever either, but if the light of Christ is in us, we can go to Heaven and receive a new body.
2 Corinthians 5:1-12

The nursery is available from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. as well as Sunday School for grades K-12 from 9:45-10:50 a.m. The nursery for infants through 3-year olds is on the first floor of the Grimes building. Children's Sunday School for K-5th Grade is on the 2nd floor of the Grimes building, and youth Sunday school is in the basement under the sanctuary. Children's Church will be offered for children through 5th Grade in the Children's Center in the Grimes building during the worship hour.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- September 19:** John 19:16-42, 2 Chronicles 30, Psalm 86
- September 20:** John 20:1-18, 2 Chronicles 31, Psalm 87
- September 21:** John 20:19-31, 2 Chronicles 32, Psalm 88
- September 22:** John 21, 2 Chronicles 33, Psalm 89:1-18
- September 23:** 1 John 1, 2 Chronicles 34, Psalm 89:19-37
- September 24:** 1 John 2, 2 Chronicles 35, Psalm 89:38-52
- September 25:** 1 John 3, 2 Chronicles 36, Psalm 90

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|----|---|
| 19 | Judy Davidson |
| 21 | Delores Darrah, Tag Grantham |
| 22 | Ashley Crosby, Vance Pinter, Justin Yates |
| 23 | John Chism |
| 24 | Ronnie Dollar, William Fuller |
| 25 | Jane Jones |

OUR STEWARDSHIP

9-12-21	
General Fund.....	17,750.00
Endowment.....	10.00
Missions.....	85.00
Other Contributions.....	44.00

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 19

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
Dr. J Grantham - Streams Live on Facebook
- 11:00 a.m. The Link - Rev. Greg Harrison
- 11:00 a.m. Children's Church - Grimes Building
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. No Basement - Youth

Monday, September 20

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 21

- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Bldg.
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

Wednesday, September 22

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Chapel - Alpha Bldg.
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 23

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
- 9:45 a.m. Backpacks of Grace

SUNDAY'S SERMON

The Critical Lesson - Part 1
Genesis 50:15-21
Rev. J Grantham

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Sept. 17-19
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258