



As a pastor, over the years, I have heard quite a few reasons/excuses for why people do not attend or have stopped attending and supporting a local church on a regular basis. The top three reasons I have encountered are – in order of frequency (and in my personal experience):

1. The church is full of hypocrites.
2. I can't find a church that meets my needs.
3. I don't need a church to worship God. I can do that just fine by myself on the - golf course, the beach, deer stand - you fill in the blank.

Now, taking these objections to engagement with a local church in order, there is no question the church is full of hypocrites. We are all hypocritical at times, and it has been that way since the beginning. Hypocrisy was one of the conditions for which Jesus reserved his harshest criticism, referring to the hypocritical religious leaders of his day as a “brood of vipers.” And this was not necessarily meant to insult these people. It was a statement of the danger they and their hypocrisy presented to the church, to the people they were supposed to be leading, and to the coming of God's kingdom. So, isn't it wonderful that even though Jesus himself was surrounded by such hypocrites, he didn't give up on the church or turn his back on his mission because of it?

As for finding a church that “meets our needs,” it is certainly natural to desire and to seek just that. We all want a church that offers Christian community, education, ministries, programming, and worship that is comfortable and exciting and that draws us closer to God. We want good preaching and programs for our children and youth. But perhaps we should consider the possibility that we might have a better chance of finding that elusive, utopian church experience if we focused on using our gifts to meet the needs of the church rather than making ourselves the center of the equation, and always expecting someone else to do the work that makes the church special.

Finally, we can and should take every opportunity to consider and appreciate nature and God's creation all around us – looking for God's divine and masterful hand in our everyday lives. We can all experience God's majesty in an oceanside sunrise, a peaceful morning filled with birds singing, or the looks of joy on the faces of children and grandchildren at play. But appreciating and even worshiping God is only a part of God's plan for us and our obligations as stewards of the lives we have been given to live by God. We must also be seeking to grow in our knowledge of God through diligent study of God's holy word, and we must be participants in the work of God's kingdom, sharing the gospel, making disciples, hearing and responding to the cries of the needy.

This is where the blessing of the church comes in, and it's the reason why the above objections to embracing the blessing of being part of a church family are actually dangerous excuses that separate those who espouse them from the abundant life Christ wants for them. Through the institution of the church, God has given us a community of fellow travelers on the journey of following in the footsteps of that cloud of witnesses who came before us and showed us what it means to work diligently and with endurance toward the promises God has given us. When we support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, we not only fulfill our individual obligation as good and faithful servants, we also help our brothers and sisters in Christ along the way.

As we consider what it means to be good stewards of our many blessings, we must always remember the role of the church in providing us with the blessing of focus and opportunity to grow personally, to serve others, and to be strengthened for the future through Christian community and fellowship. Because yes, we were born to run, but we don't have to run alone.

The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of my mother, Barbara Cullefer by Denise Hill.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of **Dale Raesly** by Helen Raesly

IN MEMORIAM

Ruby Screws
October, 13, 2021

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

Charlotte Meredith Toelle

born October 13, 2021 to
David and Danielle Toelle

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

BASEMENT NEWS



Oct. 17: Movie Night
Oct. 24: Dinner & Games

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



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

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

The Wynnton Choirs will sing anthems focused on our active participation in a community of faith; Christians working together to serve God with our time, talents and treasures; Christians working together to love one another; Christians sharing hope and joy and gladly serving this world; Christians willing to work toward peace. The lyrics of our anthems remind the singer and the listener that we are called to put Christ into each other's hands. We are also reminded that though we may not all do great things, we can do small things with great love.

"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands" music by Joel Raney, words by Fred Kaan, inspired by Mother Teresa's reflections on working toward peace.

Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it; protect it like a candle flame; with tenderness, enfold it. Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectations; be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation. Put Christ into each other's hands, He is love's deepest measure; in love make peace, give peace a chance, and share it like a treasure. Put peace into each other's hands, like bread we break for sharing; look people warmly in the eye: our life was meant for caring. Share hope and joy and gladly serve this world that we are part of, and though we may not do great things, we can do small things with great love.

"The fruit of silence is prayer; the fruit of prayer is faith; the fruit of faith is love; the fruit of love is service; the fruit of service is peace."

Mother Teresa

God's Great Peace to 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. The next 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

WNH, INC INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE BLESSING OF THE NEW HOUSE AT 2716 10th St on Sunday, October 17 @ 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Brooks, a single mother of two boys is the new purchaser. A big thank you to all who helped with the fencing, landscaping and the beautiful quilts. Rev. J Grantham will be doing the blessing.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 17

- 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
Rev. 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. Basement - Youth

Monday, October 18

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

Tuesday, October 19

- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

Wednesday, October 20

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

Thursday, October 21

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

REMEMBER

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



Operation Christmas Child

The boxes are ready for pick up if you have not gotten any boxes. They are located in the main entrance. You will find an information sheet in the box. Please read that information.

Note that there is a Boy/Girl sticker to place on your box(es) and indicate the age of the child. We are asked to send a \$9 donation for each box in one of two ways. You can give the \$9 online and follow your box or you can mail the money in the envelope you will find at the OCC table. If you pay online, they will send you an email thanking you for the donation, so you know it went through.

Remember, the date for turn in is November 14.

Thank you and have fun packing some boxes!

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	Gena Tincher
	Stella Jambon

Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Sandy Dryman & 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
Family of Rubye Screws



Children's Programs

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.

FLOWER DELIVERY
Anne Spell

CHARGE CONFERENCE
Date: October 24, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Wynnton UMC

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.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- October 17:** Revelation 17, Isaiah 1-2, Psalm 108
- October 18:** Revelation 18, Isaiah 3-4, Psalm 109:1-19
- October 19:** Revelation 19, Isaiah 5-6, Psalm 109:20-31
- October 20:** Revelation 20, Isaiah 7-8, Psalm 110
- October 21:** Revelation 21-22, Isaiah 9-10, Psalm 111
- October 22:** 1 Thessalonians 1, Isaiah 11-13, Psalm 112
- October 23:** 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16, Isaiah 14-16, Psalm 113

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 17 Catherine Hubbard, Vicki Ragan, Beverly Ann Taylor
- 18 Ramona Andresen, Patsy Fuller
- 19 Laura Cowart, Laura Grantham, Amanda Toelle
- 20 Grace Baas, Cal Callier, Ina Davis, Hank Holcomb, Jo Anna Lawson, Chipper Walker
- 21 Julia Harbison
- 23 Melinda McCune

OUR STEWARDSHIP

10-10-21	
General Fund.....	19,783.00
Missions.....	32.25
Other Contributions.....	25.00

SUNDAY'S SERMON
Born to Run
Rev. J Grantham

PASTOR ON-CALL
For emergencies October 15-17
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258