

Food for thought from J

October 3, 2021



This week we begin our stewardship month for 2021, which is a time that has become synonymous with asking our members and constituents to make a financial pledge in support of the operating budget of the church in the upcoming year. And of course, this is not entirely inaccurate. We, as a church, are in the process of finalizing our budget for 2022, and we do have expenses associated with salaries, utilities, our missions, and ministries that require your financial gifts if we are going to continue operating as we have in the past. But there is much more to stewardship than just money – beginning with the fundamental understanding of what it means to be a steward – good or otherwise.

Being a steward and exercising stewardship are recurring concepts in scripture, and each time they come up, a common theme is reinforced. If you consider such well known examples as the role Joseph played in the household of Potiphar, or the 3 servants in Jesus's parable of the talents, it is clear that the biblical, linguistic, and cultural idea of a steward in these cases (and others) is that of one who manages the resources of someone else. So, stewardship, as we consider it from a Christian perspective, occurs when one person is called on to be responsible for something that they do not own, personally, but rather, for which they are given responsibility by the actual owner.

One of our greatest challenges as stewards who are also followers of Christ, though, is the fact that we lose sight of just who it is that owns our many blessings – including our money, our time, our talents/gifts, our families, and our health. We forget that everything we have comes from God, and it is given to us, first, to be used for building God's kingdom by spreading the gospel message, living as witnesses for Christ, and making disciples. This means that, while we are rarely called to do so, we must be willing to invest – to give back - 100% of our God given blessings, if called upon by God, for the sake of these divine purposes. But do we really understand this sacred obligation and are we willing to honor it faithfully?

During October, our stewardship theme will be **Born to Run**, and we will be focusing on the fact that we were not created by God to sit idly by while others do the work of the kingdom or to feel that we have ever earned the right to simply rest on our previous work or accomplishments. Rather, we are called to persevere in our journey as Christians; a journey that doesn't end until we cross the finish line and are reunited with God. In the weeks ahead, I hope everyone will take a fresh look inward at your response to the Christian obligation to be good stewards of all our blessings - for our entire lives. Consider the scope of the gifts God has given you and how you are using them for God's kingdom. Regardless of where any of us may be, individually, in our walk with God, may we seek to be better stewards of all our gifts in 2022 and beyond.



The Chancel Flowers are given by Shirley Moon in memory of my father, David Frank Bruce and in honor of my granddaughter, Catherine Ward on their birthdays.

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of **Saunders Richey** by Erin Byrd and family

FLOWER DELIVERY

Lisa Stephens

BLESSING OF THE PETS

Sunday October 3rd at 6 p.m. Wynnton will host a Blessing of the Pets led by Greg. If you are curious as to what that is - don't worry, it's exactly what it sounds like! Everyone is invited to bring their pet or animal to a brief outdoor worship experience where we can celebrate creation, give thanks for the animals in our lives, and of course pray over and bless our pets. Weather permitting, we will gather in the playground area. We ask that all pets be leashed or contained appropriately (held in arms is fine), and we hope that you will invite your friends and neighbors to bring their furry friends as well!

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

...need your prayers as they travel to help those affected by hurricane Ida. They will be leaving this Sunday, Oct. 3rd after church, and returning Thursday, Oct 7th.

The team members are:

John Denny
Mike Johnson
Cliff Livingston
Glenn Martin
David Pringle
Park Simpson



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

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

This Sunday, we celebrate World Communion Sunday with Christians around the world. The origins of World Communion Sunday date back to 1933, during another dark time in our world history. The leaders at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania endeavored to find an act or a symbol that would remind us that God is ever present, even in times of darkness. This led to the first World Communion Sunday. In spite of our differences, the oneness and unity we experience through Christ when we commune at the table of the Lord can bring us all peace.

Our Wynnton choirs will sing Communion anthems on Sunday, reflecting God's abundant grace and mercy:

Chancel Choir Anthem

"Table of Grace" by Pepper Choplin, is a warm expressive anthem with a fluid, gentle accompaniment. Cascading harmonies representing holy manna and living water flowing from heaven remind us that we are nourished and filled with "God's timeless Love."

Table of Grace, table of mercy: see, there is room, there is plenty for all. Rise up and come to this healing place. Come to the table of grace. Table of grace for all who are weary, those who may struggle and need holy rest. Love will refresh, and the Spirit will raise. Come to the table of grace. Receive the bread like holy manna. Be nourished by heaven above. Receive the cup like living water filled by God's timeless love. Table of grace, generous bounty, offering freely forgiveness and love; come and discover God's merciful ways. Come to the table of grace. Come, there is plenty with rest for the weary. Come to the table of grace.

Wesley Choir Anthem

"Come to the Table of the Lord" by Jay Alhouse, is an invitation in song. It calls all to the table to share the bread and the cup. Inviting us to come and be renewed, to come and dwell in God's light.

Come to the table where the bread is broken.

Come to the table where the word of God is spoken.

Take this bread into your life as a token.

Come to the table of the Lord.

Come to the table and drink this wine.

Come to the table believing in this sign.

Renew your spirit with this food divine.

Come to the table of the Lord.

Hungry and thirsty, we come, Lord, to thee.

We humbly bow on bended knee.

Come to the table and dwell in God's light.

come to the table and kneel before his sight.

Join in communion and know His holy might.

Come to the table of the Lord.

John 6:51

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

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. 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 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!

BASEMENT NEWS



Oct. 3: No Basement

Oct. 10: Smores on the Patio

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.



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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 3

- 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. No Basement - Youth
- 6:00 p.m. Blessing of the Pets

Monday, October 4

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

Tuesday, October 5

- 6:00 p.m. Wynnton Neighborhood Housing

Wednesday, October 6

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

Thursday, October 7

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

SUNDAY'S SERMON

The Stewardship of Communion
1 Corinthians 11:23-29
Rev. J Grantham

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies October 1-3
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- October 3:** Revelation 3, Nehemiah 4, Psalm 98
October 4: Revelation 4, Nehemiah 5:1-7:3, Psalm 99
October 5: Revelation 5, Nehemiah 7:4-8:12, Psalm 100
October 6: Revelation 6, Nehemiah 8:13-9:37, Psalm 101
October 7: Revelation 7, Nehemiah 9:38-10:39, Psalm 102
October 8: Revelation 8, Nehemiah 11, Psalm 103
October 9: Revelation 9, Nehemiah 12, Psalm 104:1-23

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 3 Jean McGlamry, Anne Spell
 4 Sandi Carpenter, Doug Crawford,
 Hallie Taylor
 5 Bob Gilstrap
 6 Tyler Richey
 8 Ruth Anthony, Kreston George
 9 Kay Noell, Forrest Toelle,
 Sara Ann White

OUR STEWARDSHIP

9-26-21	
General Fund.....	20,167.00
Missions.....	71.55
Other Contributions.....	42.00

Prelude This Sunday

To celebrate World Communion Sunday, Debby Hubbard will be signing the words to a beautiful communion hymn *In Remembrance* by Buryl Red. (Luke 22:19)

In remembrance of Me, eat this bread.
 In remembrance of Me, drink this wine.
 In remembrance of Me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

In remembrance of Me, heal the sick.
 In remembrance of Me, feed the poor.
 In remembrance of Me, open the door and let your brother in, let him in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; Drink and remember, too, that this is My body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of Me, search for truth.
 In remembrance of Me, always love.
 In remembrance of Me, don't look above, but in your heart, look in your heart for God.
 Do this in remembrance of Me.

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
 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