

## Food for thought from J

May 8, 2022

When we ask the questions – “who is Jesus, really?” and “who is Jesus to us?” – it can seem that we are considering a distinction without a difference. And yet, these are exactly the kinds of nuanced and fundamental “truth questions” we are forced to answer almost from the time we are born. Despite what many in our modern culture may want us to think and believe these days, we are surrounded by a world of immutable truths. There is right and wrong, good and evil, truth and falsehood. There are physical forces like gravity that are essential to our ability to live on this planet and that, generally speaking, cannot be denied or overcome. The simple fact is that we spend much of our formative years learning first, what is true, SO THAT we can then determine how that truth will shape our lives. Hopefully, we learn at an early age that it is right to help others who are in need, or that it is wrong to cause harm to other people. We learn through early trial and error (and way before we have any detailed scientific understanding) about the inevitability of gravity, but then we must make up our own minds about whether these truths will guide how we think and act as we go through our daily lives.

In much the same way, Luke and all of the gospel writers tend to spend the early chapters of their gospels making the case for “who Jesus is, really – objectively,” SO THAT they can then challenge each of us, when faced with the truth of Jesus as the divine Word of God, to decide how we will respond to this truth with our thoughts, words, and deeds. Will we be changed by the reality of the identity of Jesus, such that we submit to his lordship and try to live our lives by the example he set in his life? Or will we follow our own paths and our own desires and priorities with little daily consideration given to the identity and teaching of Jesus?

When we look at it like this, the answers to these dual questions of “who is Jesus, really?” and “who is Jesus to us?” become inextricably intertwined and self-evident. If we have accepted the teaching of scripture as the **real truth**, then we must be changed by this acceptance such that we are, at least, trying to live as if Jesus is lord of our lives. On the other hand, if we are not seeking to live lives that are witnesses to Christ and producing good fruit for God’s kingdom, then perhaps that is a sign that we haven’t really accepted and believed in the truth claims of the gospels and the rest of the Bible about the power of God, the reality of Jesus, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

So what better time could there possibly be than right now, as we continue to celebrate the Easter season, to assess our own lives and seriously consider what they reveal about our belief in the reality of Jesus and who Jesus is to us?

### GIFTS OF LOVE

In honor of **Susan Hudson** by Blaney, JT, Bowen, Ella and Avery

*The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of our parents, Betty and Henry Woodliff and Maurice and Harry Creek, by Sheryl and Jim Creek.*

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Glenn Killough** by Bobbie Edmondson

In memory of **Brad Trim** by Bobbie Edmondson

In memory of **Lenore Ash** by Bobbie Edmondson

In memory of **Martha Elizondo** by Bobbie Edmondson

### 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.

## LOVE OFFERING

The Staff Parish Relations Committee and the Wynnton congregation will be honoring J and Laura for serving our church for the past 9 years. J and Laura have been reassigned to Mossy Creek UMC; their last Sunday with us will be June 5<sup>th</sup>. They have given tirelessly of themselves in many areas of our church. We will honor them with a church-wide covered-dish breakfast on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Please bring a dish to share. As part of our celebration, we will present them with a love offering to let them know how much we appreciate the blessing they have been to our church. Between now and May 29<sup>th</sup>, you can make a contribution to the love offering. We look forward to this time when we share our appreciation for J and Laura.

Deb McCranie, SPR Chair

## CONGRATULATIONS

Danielle Edwards will be graduating on May 7, 2022 from the University of North Georgia with a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood and Special Education. She has accepted a teaching position at The Cottage School in Roswell, Georgia where she will teach social studies to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade special education students.



Wynnton is excited to announce that we will be hosting a Food Truck Party VBS that will run from June 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. - 12 Noon. If you are interested in volunteering or if you are interested in registering your child, please visit <https://www.myvbs.org/WynntonUMC/> to fill out the registration form. If you have any questions, please contact Meghan Gross at [mgross@wynntonumc.org](mailto:mgross@wynntonumc.org).

## JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

Our hymns and songs are a vital way to express our thanks and praise to God for our many blessings. God's grace and blessings on humanity are shockingly, profoundly, and beautifully expressed on the cross. His love and mercy instead of judgement gives us what we could never earn; God's grace, greater than our sin. Songs and hymns can lift us up and remind us of God's grace. On Sunday, May 1, 2022, our Wynnton Choir, joined by friends and family, had the chance to share some favorite hymns that lifted spirits and reminded us of God's grace. We traveled to Savannah Grand to lead a hymn-sing to celebrate the 85th birthday of choir member Joyce Hawkins. We hope to take our show on the road more often. I am profoundly blessed by the devotion and ministry of our Wynnton Choirs!

This Sunday, our Wynnton Choirs will sing beautiful hymn arrangements in honor of our Mothers. The Wesley Choir will sing a John Carter arrangement of Fanny Crosby's *He Hideth My Soul*, a hymn which resulted from the collaboration between Fanny Crosby and William Kirkpatrick. Based on Exodus 33:21-22, this unforgettable setting is both beautiful and inspirational. The Chancel Choir will sing a Patti Drennan arrangement of *In the Garden*, and will be joined by cellist Ina Petkova-Apostolova. Graceful poetry, fresh harmonic treatment, expressive accompaniment, and a beautiful cello obligato combine to celebrate a joyous companionship experienced with Jesus.

"In the Garden" arr. by Patti Drennan

*I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses; and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses. And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

*He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet, the birds hush their singing; and the melody that He sings to me within my heart is ringing. And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known. I'd stay in the garden with Him, though the night around me is falling; But He bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling. And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

"Every soul that is truly alive has a garden of which no other holds the key, a place where Jesus walks with His disciples, and the clash of the world cannot drown the music of His voice." Brigid Emily Herman, *The Secret Garden of the Soul*.

God's Great Peace to You!  
Diana B.

### Children's Programs

The nursery is available from 8:30 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 age 3 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.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Through Old Testament stories and mission projects, our children have been learning who God is, how He loves us and is always with us, and how we are to love God and love others. Children in Pre-K through 5th grade are welcome to join us for Children's Sunday School from 9:45 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. on the second floor of the Grimes building.

### Youth Sunday School



Youth Sunday School meets in the Basement from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings. Students in 6th through 12th grade are welcome to join us for coffee, donuts, and topical discussions of God's word.

We are doing a new series exploring where students can find God. We will explore the Old Testament stories of the building of the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple. We're going to be "hands on", building dioramas of both! We'll explore the detail that scripture captures, how the Israelites interacted with God, and how the meta-narrative of the Bible continues today in how we meet and experience God.

If you'd like more information about Wynnton's youth program, please contact Rob Harbison, r.harbison@mchsi.com, (706) 289-3082.

### MOTHER'S DAY

In honor of our mothers, the church has made a contribution to the Methodist Home at Carpenter's Way. We love all of our mothers and hope you have a happy, healthy Mother's Day!

### WYNNTON ARTS ACADEMY NEEDS

Cookie decorating supplies: sprinkles, small candies like M&Ms or Skittles, small containers of icing, plastic spoons, small paper plates.

Please deliver to the door of the school or leave in the blue bin at church for Shirley Wright to deliver.

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

#### 5-1-22

General Fund.....	15,321.00
Backpacks of Grace.....	20.00
Communion.....	41.00
Wynnton Neighborhood Housing.....	1,000.00
Endowment.....	50.00
Other Contributions.....	40.00
Sunday School.....	37.76

### SUNDAY'S SERMON

*Lord Have Mercy*  
Luke 16:19-31

Rev. J Grantham

### PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies May 6-8  
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258

## READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

**May 8:** Acts 18, Judges 9, Job 38  
**May 9:** Acts 19:1-20, Judges 10:1-11:33, Job 39  
**May 10:** Acts 19:21-41, Judges 11:34-12:15, Job 40  
**May 11:** Acts 20:1-16, Judges 13, Job 41  
**May 12:** Acts 20:17-38, Judges 14-15, Job 42  
**May 13:** Acts 21:1-36, Judges 16, Psalm 42  
**May 14:** Acts 17:16-34, Judges 17-18, Psalm 43

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10 Melissa Mull  
11 Chad Kerstetter, Sally McDaniel  
12 Lou Hearn, Tommy Hudson  
13 Kecia Cawthorne, Neita Denny

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Plans are being made for our Packing Party this year! In October, we will fill our boxes for children around the world.

If you prefer to fill your own box, that is fine OR you can do both!

Different items will be requested each month to bring to the church. Collection bins are in the Fellowship Hall for these items. The goal is to pack 250 boxes this year!

In May, we are collecting small 8 oz plastic cups and small bowls. These can be found locally or from IKEA.

In a message from Samaritan's Purse: Praise God for shoebox gifts that were collected last year.

Thank you and all Glory to God!!

### Items Collected so far:

150 Bars of Soap  
61 Hair Brushes  
114 Toothbrushes  
96 Ball caps  
108 Wash Cloths  
74 Large Combs  
45 Deodorant\*  
12 8oz. plastic cups  
12 plastic bowls  
\*may be enough

Keep up the good work! Each one bring one of each. Please. Would love to pack 250 boxes!!

## A WYNNTON WELCOME!

If you would like to send a card to welcome our new ministers to Wynnton their addresses are:

Michaela & Will Walley  
203 North Church St.  
Hollendale, MS 38748

April & Jason Wade  
Amelia & Avery  
7601 Peridot Lane  
Savannah, GA 31406

## 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 May. 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 Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexy McRae
Matthew Allen	Dorothy Robinson
Bobby Porch	Kerry Mess
Lillian Cox	Jennefer Spell
Lynn Christenson	Jim Accordino
Beverly Ragsdale	Gwen Bolin
Jean McGlamry	Joyce Hawkins
Aubrey Walker	Margie Spurlin
The Meacham Family	Denise Hill
Jimmy Kent	Patsy Blalock
Daro Miller	Linda Osborne
Jake Wood	Alexandria Ridley
Kimberly Smith	Denise Stephens
Rory Miller	David Woolbright

## Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Family of Brad Trim  
Family of Lenore Ash  
Family of Larry Googe  
Family of Barbara Stevenson  
Family of Charles Ward  
Family of Martha Ann Elizondo  
Family of Glenn Killough

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## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

South Georgia Annual Conference is looking for volunteers to help greet people June 5-8. You can go online to register to volunteer for a time that works best for you at <https://sgaumc-reg.brapp.com/2022ACVolunteerRegistration>.

### Flower Delivery

Lynda Massey

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, May 8

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
Streams Live on Facebook  
11:00 a.m. Children's Church - Grimes Building

### Monday, May 9

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

### Tuesday, May 10

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library  
10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

### Wednesday, May 11

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Chapel & Book Study - Pathfinders Class  
6:30-7:15 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal - Bell Room  
7:15-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, May 12

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