

Food for thought from J

September 5, 2021

It is shocking to think about the upheaval we have all experienced in our lives over the last 18 months. Health concerns, jobs lost or changed significantly, personal and professional goals suspended, families and friends separated, are just a few of the challenges we have had to face during these unprecedented times. And our church has not escaped these trials. Prior to March of 2020, exciting plans were in the works to enhance programming for children, youth, and young adults through the implementation of a coordinated family ministries program. We were just weeks away from beginning a hospitality initiative to ensure a warm and welcoming environment for our members and guests. Ultimately, in conjunction with all of this, we were working on new marketing strategies to promote Wynnton UMC's name throughout the Columbus community. And then, through a combination of a global pandemic and the loss of key staff positions, all of these plans came to a halt.

So, it is **great news** that, despite the health challenges we still face and the ongoing struggle to find qualified candidates for our key, open positions, many of these pre-COVID initiatives are moving forward again in our church. Through the selfless dedication of a group of volunteers who are committed to ensuring we have quality programming for our members and any guests and their families who may come to our church, we are now offering the following Sunday programming:

- Full nursery services for our 8:30 and 11:00 Sunday worship
- Children's Church during the 11:00 worship hour
- Children's Sunday school class
- Youth Sunday school class
- New young adult/family Sunday school class
- Sunday night youth activities – 5:00 Sunday afternoons

In addition to this, we have kicked off our Worship Welcomers program that places volunteers at our main entrances every Sunday to offer a warm welcome to members and guests and to provide general information about our Sunday morning activities for those who are new to Wynnton or who are unfamiliar with our current programs. We are also making great progress with our weekly Facebook streaming thanks to 4 dedicated volunteers who are working hard to become experts in running our new camera and sound system in the sanctuary. Special thanks to all who are giving their time, talents, and spiritual gifts to make sure we present the programming and environment of a loving, strong, and vital church.

BUT – this progress cannot be sustained without your consistent and ongoing support. If we hope to attract and retain new families with children and youth, it takes people to offer programming like that listed above. We need a larger pool of volunteers to help support our nursery, our children's church, and our children and youth education activities. Furthermore, our current volunteer list for Worship Welcomers only extends through the end of October, and we will need even more volunteers to sign up for the months of November and December when we have some of our highest numbers of guests.

While our efforts to fill vacant staff positions will continue, your involvement, now, is more important than ever. Please don't wait to be asked to volunteer. We all have gifts and talents given to us by God for the purpose of building God's kingdom through the church. As followers of Christ, we are the Church, and we all have an obligation to be good and faithful stewards of these gifts. God is blessing our church to play a great role in the future of God's kingdom and of this community. How will you be a part of it?



IN MEMORIAM

In memory of **Bill Harper** by Susan & Tommy Hudson

In memory of **Steve Smith** by Rachel Baas, O'Hara & Bill Crosswell

The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of my husband, Jon Hill, for his birthday, Sept. 3rd, by Claren Hill.

FLOWER DELIVERY

Cindy Autry

BASEMENT NEWS



Sept. 5: No Youth (Labor Day)

Sept. 12: Dinner and games

Sept. 19: Bowling

BASEMENT

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! 🎵

William Kirkpatrick was born in Ireland, and immigrated to Philadelphia in 1840. He was a versatile musician, able to play many instruments; cello, fife, flute, organ, violin and piano among the instruments in his purview. During the mid to late 1800s, William Kirkpatrick participated in many of the Camp Meetings held by the Methodist Church. He often led the music portion of these meetings. William would enlist the help of soloists and other musicians to lead the music and enrich the experience for the congregants of the meetings. During one such meeting, he became concerned that one of the young soloists had not accepted Jesus Christ. He prayed that God would somehow get a hold of his heart. As he prayed, a song began to form in his mind. He wrote down the lyrics and asked the soloist to sing the song that evening. The lyrics convicted the heart of the young man, and he was moved to receive Christ at the altar call later that evening. This song, "Lord, I'm Coming Home", is based on a powerful message that was the focus of last Sunday's Sermon: the Parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11.

Sunday, our Wynnton choirs will sing an original, prayerful ballad by Mary McDonald, paired with the beloved gospel hymn text of William Kirkpatrick's "Lord I'm Coming Home." With beautiful, contemplative harmony, this is an exquisite anthem of repentance and forgiveness.

"Coming Home" by Mary McDonald

I've wandered far away from God, now I'm coming home. The paths of sin too long I've trod, Lord, I'm coming home. Coming home, coming home, never more to roam. Open wide the arms of thy true love, Lord, I'm coming home.

My soul is sick, my heart is sore, now I'm coming home. My strength renew, my hope restore, Lord, I'm coming home. Coming home, coming home, never more to roam. Open wide the arms of thy true love, Lord, I'm coming home.

Coming home, coming home, never more to roam. Open wide thine arms of love, Lord, I'm coming home. Lord, I'm coming home. Lord, I'm coming home.

Luke 15:31-32

"My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we have to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

God's Great Peace to You!
Diana B.

BIBLE COOKIES KIES

Children's Programs

There is nothing sweeter than God's love! Cookies are small, often bite-sized treats. Jesus taught his followers using short and sweet stories called parables that can teach us a lot about how God wants us to live and how much he loves us.

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.

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 DMC | 2412 Wynnton Road



The youth started a new Sunday School series on Christian doctrine from the Book of Romans, August 15th.

WANT TO HELP?

The children at Wynnton Arts Academy are in need of elementary age sized khaki pants, shorts, skirts, skirts, red polo shirts & underwear.

They are also in need of school supplies. Here are some suggestions: Crayons (small, box of 24 - fat, box of 8) Pencils (yellow #2), Large pink erasers (about 2 1/2x1x1/2) – not pencil toppers), Kleenex, Hand sanitizer (large), Band-Aids, Wide-ruled notebook paper, Fat primary pencils, Glue sticks, Ziploc bags (all sizes), Scissors (blunt tip), Colored markers (fat, 8 per box), Dry erase markers (black and assorted colors).

If you would like to help, please place the items in the bin in front of the library.

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.



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

SUNDAY'S SERMON

What is Good?
Romans 8:28
Rev. J Grantham

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Sept. 3-5
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- September 5:** John 11:1-27, 2 Chronicles 10-11, Psalm 75
- September 6:** John 11:28-57, 2 Chronicles 12-13, Psalm 76
- September 7:** John 12:1-26, 2 Chronicles 14-15, Psalm 77
- September 8:** John 12:27-50, 2 Chronicles 16-17, Psalm 78:1-20
- September 9:** John 13:1-20, 2 Chronicles 18, Psalm 78:21-37
- September 10:** John 13:21-38, 2 Chronicles 19, Psalm 78:38-55
- September 11:** John 14:1-14, 2 Chronicles 20:1-21:1, Psalm 78:56-72

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 5 Larry Hendrickson, Janey Mims, Denton Spurlin, Mason Walker
- 6 Rev. J Grantham, Oz White
- 7 Richard Andrews, Fran Miller
- 8 Sheryl Creek
- 9 Emily Weierick

OUR STEWARDSHIP

8-29-21	
General Fund.....	33,322.00
Endowment.....	100.00
Missions.....	63.37
UMCOR.....	250.00
Other Contributions.....	60.16

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	

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 5

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

Monday, September 6

OFFICE CLOSED - LABOR DAY

Tuesday, September 7

10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building
6:00 p.m. Wynnton Neighborhood Housing

Wednesday, September 8

10:00 a.m. Women's Zoom Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir - Bell Choir Room
7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 9

6:30 a.m. Men's Zoom Bible Study

Friday, September 10

12:00 p.m. Goodwill Meeting - Fellowship Hall