

## Food for thought from J

May 29, 2022

This week we will wrap up our recent sermon series on Luke's gospel that began back in January. While we will do this without having covered every chapter and verse in this important gospel, we will have considered most of the major themes and lessons that are captured by Luke, including the one that has probably figured most prominently in my preaching and teaching, in general, over the last 3 years - our mandate to produce good fruit for God's kingdom.

Now, as I mentioned last Sunday, there are many key points that Jesus revisits regularly during his teaching and preaching ministry. These include things like money, hell, caring for the needy, and warnings against hypocrisy and self-righteousness. But surely, there is nothing more prominent in his teaching and in the example of his life than the importance of being fruitful in our discipleship. Jesus makes this point in many ways. Sometimes, in well-known parables like **The Sower** or **The Parable of the Talents**, Jesus's teaching focuses on the virtue and reward associated with fruitfulness. At other times, his lessons take a more cautionary approach, as he warns us that lack of fruitfulness leads to destruction:

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. – John 15:5-6*

What is most important for us to remember, though, is the relationship between our commitment to following Christ and our fruitfulness. This week's passage from Luke makes this point dramatically with the familiar words:

*“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. – Luke 6:43-44*

While our hearts seek earnestly after God's righteousness and living as witnesses to the example of Christ, we will produce good and abundant fruit. Those around us will be recipients of our love, kindness, and generosity, and the world will be a better place for it. Conversely, when we lose sight of that primary objective, and begin to allow our own fallen natures to guide our lives, it will be apparent by the bad fruit, or lack of fruit that ensues. Then, our lives, our families, our church, and our communities experience division, bitterness, anger, hatred, and destruction.

In his ministry, Jesus showed us what real love looks like and, subsequently, the kind of love we are to exhibit and the kind of fruit we are to bear. This is the kind of love that tells us, if we will hear and act on the words of Jesus it will be like building our lives on the firmest foundation of rock, and when the flood waters come, as they inevitably do, we will not be shaken and our ability to produce good fruit for the kingdom will not be diminished.

May God bless Wynnton as a church that is built on this firmest foundation of Christ-like love that can endure even the harshest of storms.

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*The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of my three children, Darrel, Amber, & David by Denise Hill.*

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Jimmy Kent** by Neita & John Denny; Linell & David Pringle; Pam & Mike Woodard

In memory of **Jean McGlamry** by Fred & Georgia Wise



Wynnton is excited to announce that we will be hosting a Food Truck Party VBS that will run from June 13th to 17th 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).

### SAVE THE DATE

Going away breakfast for  
J and Laura Grantham  
and  
Greg and Alaina Harrison

Sunday, June 5, 2022  
10:00 a.m.

This is a covered dish breakfast. Please bring enough for you and your family.

### SPECIAL CALLED CHARGE CONFERENCE

There will be a called Charge Conference at 12:15 pm on Sunday, June 5th in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the compensation for the incoming pastors.

### Flower Delivery

Lisa Stephens

### JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

The Wynnton Choirs will share a beautiful arrangement of America the Beautiful this Sunday. As we reflect on Memorial Day and remember the dedication and sacrifice of our fallen service members, we also remember and praise our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for showing us true love and sacrifice.

Romans 5:8

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

"America the Beautiful" arranged by Buryl Red  
*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain!*

*America, America, God shed his grace on thee. And crown Thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!*

*America, America, God shed his grace on thee. And crown Thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.*

May God bless the fallen and those deployed in harm's way.  
May God bless our world through our many challenges.  
May God bless America.

God's Great Peace to You!  
Diana B.

### 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

## LOCATION CHANGE

Children's Sunday School is relocating to the Children's Church room (the room downstairs, next to the nursery). Both services will now be held in that room.

## 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. in the Grimes Bldg.'s first floor children's church room next to the nursery.

## 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.brtaapp.com/2022ACVolunteerRegistration>.

## 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](mailto:r.harbison@mchsi.com), (706) 289-3082.

## 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.

## 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 June. 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

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\*  
216 12 8oz. plastic cups  
84 12 plastic bowls  
\*may be enough

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

### SAFE SANCTUARIES MEETING

All VBS, children/youth ministries, or Sunday School volunteers are required to attend Safe Sanctuaries training on **Sunday, June 12th at 12:00 p.m.** If you cannot make this training, please contact Meghan Gross or the church office to make different arrangements.

### READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

**May 29:** Romans 4, 1 Samuel 13, Psalm 58  
**May 30:** Romans 5, 1 Samuel 14, Psalm 59  
**May 31:** Romans 6, 1 Samuel 15, Psalm 60  
**June 1:** Romans 7, 1 Samuel 16, Psalm 61  
**June 2:** Romans 8, 1 Samuel 17:1-54, Psalm 62  
**June 3:** Romans 9:1-29, 1 Samuel 17:55-18:30, Psalm 63  
**June 4:** Romans 9:30-10:21, 1 Samuel 19, Psalm 64

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

29 Katie Kelly, Tracy Powell  
30 Beverly Schlitzkus  
1 Wylene Loeb  
4 Rob Hammond, III, Jenna Yates

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

**5-22-22**  
General Fund.....10,331.00  
Endowment.....95.00  
Music.....50.00  
Other Contributions.....28.00  
Sunday School.....35.00

### PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies May 27-29  
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258

### SUNDAY'S SERMON

*What is Our Fruit*  
Luke 6:43-49  
Rev. J Grantham

### 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

### Our Known Prayer Concerns:

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

### 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  
Family of Jimmy Kent  
Family of Jean McGlamry

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, May 29

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 30

Office Closed - Memorial Day

#### Wednesday, June 1

7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, June 2

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.