

*A Community of faith, led by God's spirit, offering Christ to the World*

**Can The Prodigal Still Return?**

**August 7, 2022**

As we look into the last week of our “Family Matters” series, I am so humbled and blessed to see where God has been moving at Wynnton UMC. I know that there are still many steps to take, and we will do that together, one step at a time. That is really good to hear... we will do it TOGETHER. As we continue to remind ourselves of the value that God placed on the family, there is always one story that illuminates the strength and the flaws of the family.

I really wish I could say that today, the Church would still be willing to welcome the Prodigal back home. I know that may sound harsh, but I am just letting you know that over the last 2,000 plus years the church has changed, because the family going to church has changed. We are no longer a solid unit, but a family that is struggling to understand the fullness of God's grace. The world has shed a light on the Church to make it seem as though we are no longer the body of Christ united for one singular purpose: “To make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world”. Instead, it seems that we have chosen to fortify our walls and not fulfill the purpose for which we have been created.

Now, I am not saying that is happening at Wynnton, but I am saying that the Church universal is struggling to allow the world to see the shining light that we are supposed to be for others. So I would ask the question, “Would the prodigal still be welcomed and able to return home in today's church?” That is a very deep question, but we have been digging deep into this singular question our entire series.

Regardless of what is going on around us, I would love for the community and the world to know Wynnton to be the greatest family church in the world. I want anyone that enters our doors to feel the grace, love and mercy of Christ. I want them to have a desire to come back and bring others with them. I want people to tell the world that at Wynnton Family Matters... People Matter, and we want to share with them the honest TRUTH of the Gospel. I know that may sound crazy, but I do believe in the Word of God to be our light in ever present troubles. I believe that God is still calling us to Love God, Love People and to Serve Together. So I am asking that this week you answer the question of this week's article. If family truly matters to God and truly is a foundational point in which we stand, “Can the Prodigal Still Return to Wynnton and experience the amazing story of God's grace?”

This past Sunday, my family was able to see God's love in every person that was in the room. We heard joy, hope and excitement. We broke bread together and in some cases slaughtered the fatten calf, or sausage balls, in order that we could celebrate that each of us were lost but now we have found ourselves once again within the walls of Wynnton. And I hope and pray that EVERY person can experience that same joy when they enter these doors. IT IS TIME to let this community know that our doors are open, and the Gospel is going to be our firm foundation. May our doors be opened wide and the words read Welcome, we are open for God's business!

In His grip,  
Jason

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*The Chancel Flowers are given  
in memory of Cloie Porch, who  
passed away on Aug. 7, 2020, by  
Bobby Porch.*

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Kathy and Mike Wolfe  
2010 Piedmont Lake Rd.  
Pine Mountain, GA 31822

### **TY WHITLEY YATES**

born July 28, 2022 to  
Ryan and Taylor Yates

Congratulations to the proud parents and to his big brothers Rhett and Colt. A rosebud will be placed on the altar by the church.

### **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

In memory of **Florence Jarrell** by Beth & Larry Hendrickson

### **GIFTS OF LOVE**

In honor of **Kay & Walt Hart's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** by Jennie & Ken Payne

In honor of **the marriage of Mr. & Mrs. John Richey** by the Sojourners Class; Susan & Tommy Hudson

### **CHANCEL FLOWERS**

If you would be interested in putting flowers in the sanctuary on August 14<sup>th</sup> or September 4 please call the church office.

### **CEREMONY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Shirley Wright and John Richey will be married following the service on Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **NAME BADGE**

With the new pastors here, we will continue wearing our name badges. If you cannot locate yours, please call the church office for a new one.

Dear Friends,

The Wynnton Neighborhood Housing Board of Directors wants to thank you so much for all of your generous donations to us for Trinity House. Whether you have given monetary gifts, gifts of furniture or items for the kitchens and baths, your volunteer hours or your prayers, all are so greatly appreciated. Without all of the above, the renovations of Trinity House for homeless families could not happen. The work is going slowly, but coming along. We hope to have two apartments completely finished within the next couple of weeks.

We would love for you to stop by 921 Lawyers Lane and see our progress. We are usually there Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8:30 - 1:30. Thank you again for your wonderful generosity.

Sincerely,

Wynnton Neighborhood Housing, Inc.  
Board of Directors

### **EARLY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING**

A collaborative effort of the United Methodist Committee on Relief and United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

Mike Tovey, Host  
Midland UMC  
Saturday, August 13, 2022  
8:00 a.m.

For more information contact:  
Glenn Martin  
Northwest District Coordinator  
Gmartin0704@gmail.com  
Cell: 912-312-6341

### **Flower Delivery**

Linda Twiggs

### 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 August. 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.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. in the Grimes Bldg.'s first floor children's church room next to the nursery.

### Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexy McRae
Lynn Christenson	Dorothy Robinson
Beverly Ragsdale	Jennefer Spell
Aubrey Walker	Jim Accordino
Daro Miller	Denise Hill
David Woolbright	Denise Stephens
Freddie Richardson & Family	Howard Wilson
Esther Giammona	Ed Thigpen

### Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Family of Fred Chamberlain  
(brother-in-law of Harold Hill)  
Family of Ernest Hale

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please help us update our information (or pick up a card in the church) by using this QR code. Contact Will Walley at the church for more information or questions.



### Trinity House Update

Wynnton Neighborhood Housing will be working on Trinity House the next several Saturdays from 8:30 until about 1:00. If you would like to volunteer, you can come anytime during those hours or contact Bill White (706) 527-3309.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, August 7

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

#### Tuesday, August 9

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library

#### Wednesday, August 10

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

#### Thursday, August 11

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

#### Saturday, August 13

8:30-1:00 p.m. Trinity House Work

### SUNDAY'S SERMON

*Can the Prodigal Still Return?*  
Luke 15:11-31

Dr. Jason Wade

## JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

E.A. Hoffman pastored several Evangelical and Presbyterian churches throughout the northeast. He is credited with writing over 2,000 hymns and served as the editor for over 50 gospel song and hymn books. He was the son of an Evangelical Minister, and grew up singing hymns at home and at church. Hoffman developed a love for sacred music during family worship time at home. Jacob Henry Hall, author of *Biography of Gospel Song and Hymn Writers*, shares this belief of E.A. Hoffman: "Song is as natural a function of the soul as breathing is a natural function of the body." Some of Hoffman's best loved hymns are; *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms, What a Wonderful Savior, Are You Washed in the Blood, and I Must Tell Jesus*. The Chancel Choir will sing a Mary McDonald arrangement of *I Must Tell Jesus* with *Blessed Assurance* this Sunday. The inspiration for E.A. Hoffman's hymn came from a pastoral visitation with an afflicted and sorrowful woman under his pastoral care. In response to her plea, "Brother Hoffman, what shall I do?" he answered, "You cannot do better than to take all of your sorrows to Jesus. You must tell Jesus." She responded with joy, "Yes, I must tell Jesus." As Hoffman returned home, he thought of her joy-filled face and penned the words quickly for what has been one of his best loved songs.

"I Must Tell Jesus" with "Blessed Assurance" arranged by Mary McDonald

*I must tell Jesus all of my trials; I cannot bear these burdens alone; In my distress He kindly will help me; He ever loves and cares for His own.*

*I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus, I cannot bear my burdens alone. I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus! Jesus can help me, Jesus alone. This is my story, this is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long.*

*This is my story, this is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long. I must tell Jesus. I cannot bear my burdens alone. In my distress He kindly will help me. He ever loves and cares for His own. This is my story, this is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long. Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my song!*

1 Peter 5:6-7

*Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

God's Great peace to You!  
Diana B.

## 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!

June and July are our months to collect school supplies. Watch for ads for school supplies. If you wait for the Back to School sales, you can get more supplies for the money you spend. Paper, pencils, crayons, markers, colored pencils, sharpeners, erasers are all good choices. I like to make sure each child gets these items in their box. Thanks for all the supplies we have so far. We are still working toward 200 of each item. And be looking for your special WOW items to put in your box/boxes. You keep those until the big Packing Party!!

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:

162 Bars of Soap  
76 Hair Brushes  
140 Toothbrushes  
99 Ball caps  
210 Wash Cloths  
94 Large Combs  
61 Deodorant\*  
236 12 8oz. plastic cups  
84 12 plastic bowls  
10 Notebook paper  
18 Note pads  
30 boxes Markers  
37 boxes Crayons  
21 boxes Pencils  
25 Pencil Sharpeners  
4 boxes Colored Pencils  
7 boxes Ball point pens  
7 Erasers  
\*may be enough

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

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## READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

**August 7:** 2 Corinthians 8, 2 Kings 20-21, Nahum 2  
**August 8:** 2 Corinthians 9, 2 Kings 22:1-23:34,  
Nahum 3  
**August 9:** 2 Corinthians 10, 2 Kings 23:35-24:20,  
Habakkuk 1  
**August 10:** 2 Corinthians 11, 2 Kings 25, Habakkuk 2  
**August 11:** 2 Corinthians 12, 1 Chronicles 1-2,  
Habakkuk 3  
**August 12:** 2 Corinthians 13, 1 Chronicles 3-4,  
Zephaniah 1  
**August 13:** John 1:18-18, 1 Chronicles 5-6,  
Zephaniah 2

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7 Wayne Anthony, Morgan Dryman  
8 Inge Smith, Avery Wade  
9 Joan Carswell  
11 Lucy Hart, Paul Hart  
13 Elizabeth Ades, Linda Callier,  
Jo Jo Dryman

## OUR ATTENDANCE

**7-31-22**  
Morning Service.....150

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

**7-31-22**  
General Fund.....5,711.00  
Endowment.....250.00  
Children's Ministry.....3.00  
Missions.....50.00  
Other Contributions.....84.00

### PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Aug. 5-7  
Rev. Will Walley 601-337-9691

