

Food for thought from J

February 6, 2022

It's been over 9 years now since I took the first steps toward answering the call to the vocation of ministry and began the UMC candidacy process that led, eventually, to becoming a pastor here at Wynnton. As I made the transition from lay member of a church family to serving as pastor of a church, however, I found myself in desperate need of tools, resources, and disciplines to help me pursue the level of spiritual formation I needed, personally, if I was going to be the kind of Christian leader God was calling me to be.

Thankfully, Asbury Theological Seminary anticipated this need and required every new seminary student to take a class during their first year called – The Vocation of Ministry. Included in the required reading for this class was a book many of my classmates had already read and cited as an exceptional tool for learning key spiritual disciplines. This book was **Sacred Rhythms** by Ruth Haley Barton, and my classmates and the seminary were right. This book is an excellent introduction to such critical disciplines as embracing the importance of sabbath, taking our prayer lives to a deeper level, and one of the most useful practices for meditating on scripture I have ever encountered – lectio divina – which I use regularly for my weekly sermon preparation.

So, I am excited that Deb McCranie will be leading a study of this book at 5:30 every Wednesday night for the next several weeks. During this study, we will read the book, look for opportunities to practice the teachings it contains, and engage in a weekly time of prayer and contemplation. I encourage anyone who is interested in taking their spiritual formation to a new level to pick up a copy of **Sacred Rhythms** at the church and join us every Wednesday night at 5:30 in the Alpha Building as we seek to find our own sacred rhythms for spiritual growth and formation.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

We will have our first Church Council meeting of the year on **Sunday, February 6, 2022** immediately following our 11:00 worship service. If you are a member of Church Council, please make every effort to attend.

The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of Sissie Davis and others who have been affected by the loss of loved ones from COVID by the Branham family.

Flower Delivery

Linda Twiggs

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The following dates are available to put flowers in the sanctuary: March 6th, 13 & April 3. If you are interested in filling any of these dates, please call the office.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Brad Trim** by Zane Draughon

In memory of **Martha Irwin** by Betty Woodruff; Suzanne Supple; Zane Draughon

In memory of **Lenore Ash** by Carol Hammock; Susan & Tommy Hudson; Shirley Wright; Cindy & Randy Autry; Neita & John Denny; Carolyn Holland; Pam & Bob Gilstrap; Hank, Ann, Sarah & Jim Ash; Graham Dukes; Mary Nell & Mike Blasingame; Dorothy & Mike Johnson; Lauren Becker; Kim Becker; Lynn & Wes Ezzell; Betty Woodruff

In memory of **Phil Vining** by Zane Draughon

GIFTS OF LOVE

In honor of **J Grantham** by The Pringle and Ash Family

In honor of **Kay Hart** by The Pringle and Ash Family

In honor of **Joyful Noise & Goodwill Class** by The Pringle and Ash Family

In honor of **Judy Davidson** by Beth & Reggie Kelley

In honor of **Amelia Toelle** by Beth & Reggie Kelley

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 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.

Join our children and youth
in the Souper Bowl of Caring
campaign on 2.13.22!



tacklehunger.org

Youth and children have the power to make an impact. In fact, one youth group prayed in 1990, "LORD, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat." God used these students to launch a mission known as Souper Bowl of Caring, which resulted in over \$170 million in donations to charities. \$25 million of that came from just the last three years. Our youth and children will join in this impact by running a food drive, where they will be collecting food donations for Wynnton Neighborhood Network on the morning of Sunday, February 13th. Here's what you can bring: canned vegetables, canned meats, canned tomato products, canned fruit, mac and cheese, spaghetti sauce, noodles, jelly, peanut butter, soup, rice, toilet paper, bar soap, laundry detergent pods. You can drop these items off at the youth and children donation station, which will be inside the foyer by the parking lot. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Youth Sunday School

Four Acts of Love

We are starting a new series in The Basement called, "Four Acts of Love". Through Old and New Testament Bible stories about human encounters, we will talk about four Christian actions in response to Jesus' saving grace: radical hospitality, grooming a hunger for spiritual knowledge, practicing humility, and as J likes to say, always leaving room for the Holy Spirit.

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. These lessons have prepared us to meet Jesus during this Advent season. 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.

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 March. 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.

...and also, please note that our sign-up sheets for the first quarter of 2022 are available on the sign-up table in the main hallway. Please be thinking of dates for which you can sign up over the next few months.

SUPPORT FOR UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the primary arm of the United Methodist Church that provides vital support for such missions as domestic and international disaster relief, global health, missionaries around the world, and evangelism/church revitalization. If you would like to support UMCOR financially, you can do so in the following ways:

1. Send your check, designated to UMCOR, to the church office and we will make sure it is forwarded to UMCOR.
2. Go to their website: <https://umcmmission.org> and follow the links for designating your gift to the mission of your choice. For those wishing to support relief efforts related to the recent disasters in Kentucky, you can designate your gift for US disaster relief.
3. You can also support UMCOR on an ongoing basis with the Amazonsmile program that will make automatic donations to UMCOR based on your spending with Amazon.

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

William Kirkpatrick was a prolific American hymn writer of Irish birth. *A Wonderful Savior is Jesus My Lord, Away in a Manger, Lead Me to Calvary, 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus, Halleluiah! Amen!, Lord, I'm Coming Home, Redeemed, Singing I Go*, are among his many hymn contributions. Through his faith, the Lord led him to write lyrics and compose music that might compel the singer and the listener to know Christ. One such conversion story is told of a young singer who sang Kirkpatrick's hymn, "Lord, I'm Coming Home." The lyrics of the hymn convicted the young singer's heart. Later that day this soloist answered an altar call and accepted Jesus into his heart. Sunday, the Chancel Choir 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, nevermore 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, nevermore to roam.
Open wide the arms of thy true love, Lord, I'm coming home.*

*Coming home, coming home, nevermore 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.

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Feb. 4 - 6
Rev. Greg Harrison 478-955-1577

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexie McRae
Glenn Killough	Kathy Draughon
Matthew Allen	Debi Meacham Wright
Bobby Porch	Dorothy Robinson
Lillian Cox	Kerry Mess
Lynn Christenson	Jennefer Spell
Beverly Ragsdale	Jim Accordino
Jean McGlamry	Gwen Bolin
Aubrey Walker	Joyce Hawkins
Margie Spurlin	

Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Family of Rubye Screws
 Family of Stella Jambon
 Family of Marjorie Croft
 Family of Sarah Crawford
 Family of Deanna Stevenson
 Family of Wanda Jones
 Family of Rick Mitchell
 Family of Brad Trim
 Family of Lenore Ash

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 6

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
 12:15 p.m. Church Council Meeting - Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 7

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

Tuesday, February 8

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Fellowship Hall
 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Bldg.
 6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 9

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

Thursday, February 10

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

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

February 6: Hebrew 2, Genesis 46:28-47:31, Psalm 37
February 7: Hebrew 3:1-4:13, Genesis 48, Psalm 38
February 8: Hebrew 4:14-6:12, Genesis 49-50, Psalm 39
February 9: Hebrew 6:13-20, Exodus 1-2, Psalm 40
February 10: Hebrews 7, Exodus 3-4, Psalm 41
February 11: Hebrews 8, Exodus 5:1-6:27, Proverbs 1
February 12: Hebrews 9:1-22, Exodus 6:28-8:32, Proverbs 2

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6	Candice Cotton, Addison Harrison
7	Kason Crosby, Jill Yates
8	Dan Booth, Margaret Goodroe
9	Win Cawthorne
11	Kim Carroll, Ben Edwards, Carson Jones, Lynn White
12	Larry Spell

OUR STEWARDSHIP

1-30-21

General Fund.....	9,436.00
Endowment.....	475.00
Missions.....	35.00
Backpacks of Grace.....	270.00
Other Contributions.....	163.00
Music.....	100.00

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Tasting the Fruit
 Matthew 6:25-34

Rev. J Grantham