

Food for thought from J

September 26, 2021

I admit it. I am a prototypical, obnoxious grandfather. I have a phone full of pictures of the most beautiful, smartest, and most accomplished grandchildren on earth. After only four years, I already have endless stories to tell of their exploits that push the bounds of cuteness and extraordinary intellect to heretofore unknown heights. It goes without saying that at least one of my grandsons is certain to make a contribution to society unlike anyone who has come before him. The others will no doubt be world class athletes, musicians, or captains of industry.

But a funny thing happened on the way to becoming a grandfather for the third time. Just a couple of weeks ago, as I awaited word of the birth of grandson number three, I was reminded again of the responsibility that comes with being a parent – grand or otherwise – to a new life. Then, in the days after his birth, and as Laura and I immersed ourselves in several days of caring for our two older grandsons while their mother, father, and new little brother remained in the hospital, I was struck like I have not been since the birth of our daughter, with the weight of the sacred obligation we all have for caring for these new little humans. Surely this is one of the greatest stewardship obligations any of us ever has to shoulder - to do everything we can to ensure our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren are raised in a loving and supportive environment to be positive, productive members of society long after we are gone.

And yet, as important and as exciting as is this aspect of our work as stewards of the blessing of new life that God has given, it remains just one part of our call to being good and faithful servants for God. As we prepare to focus on the concept of stewardship in the month of October, for those of us who have been blessed with children and grandchildren, let us consider the joyful and unquestioning manner in which we are willing to fulfill our stewardship obligation to them – even to our last breath. Then, may we have the same commitment to the one who gave us the breath of life - that we remain good, faithful, and joyful stewards of all God’s gifts and blessings to us – running the race all the way to the finish line.

**Phoebe Rose
Poppy Grace**
born August 24, 2021 to
Mallory & Chadwick Nelson

Congratulations to the proud parents and to big brother, Benjamin.
A rosebud is placed on the altar by the church.

The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of Saunders' birthday by John Richey.

FLOWER DELIVERY
Rachel Plummer

IN MEMORIAM
In memory of **Richard Geeslin** by Walter Miller

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Emily Coats & Shane Lewis who were married Saturday, September 18th in our Sanctuary. The beautiful flowers that were left in the hallway last Sunday were from their wedding.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

There are only 5 available dates left in the year to place flowers in the sanctuary. The dates are October 3rd, 24th & 31st and November 7th & 28th. If you are interested, please call the church office @ 706-324-2424.

BLESSING OF THE PETS

Sunday October 3rd at 6pm Wynnton will host a Blessing of the Pets led by Greg. If you are curious as to what that is - don't worry, it's exactly what it sounds like! Everyone is invited to bring their pet or animal to a brief outdoor worship experience where we can celebrate creation, give thanks for the animals in our lives, and of course pray over and bless our pets. Weather permitting, we will gather in the playground area. We ask that all pets be leashed or contained appropriately (held in arms is fine), and we hope that you will invite your friends and neighbors to bring their furry friends as well!

BASEMENT NEWS



Sept. 26: No Youth

Oct. 3: Service Project TBD

For information about the Wynnton Youth Group contact Rob Harbison, (706) 289-3082, r.harbison@mchsi.com



The youth started a new Sunday School series on Christian doctrine from the Book of Romans. Please join us!

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

So many people are filled with emptiness which leads to bitterness toward life and toward people. Emptiness that makes these people angry and hateful. Now, imagine a world, a people, a church, connecting with each other and with God. Imagine a people aware of God's perfect love; people who seek the way, the truth, the life. With the love of God in their hearts, a unified people or community, reaching out to those who are empty, to those who are in need. The Chancel Choir anthem for this Sunday is a prayer of love and unification. The lyrics remind us that we are called to hear and live the Gospel, and to respond with good works. This slow gospel anthem is a plea for God's love to fill our hearts and "work among us," and to rid us of bitterness and blame. With hearts filled with perfect love, we may truly be messengers of peace!

"Draw Us Together" by Pepper Choplin

How can we share the gospel of peace if peace does not live in the heart? How can we share the message of love if bitterness tears us apart? We may go forward with something to give when the gospel we preach is the gospel we live.

O Lord, come work among us. Move like we've never seen. Come now and cleanse us, come work within us, draw us together again.

Come people, come, let us hear the Word of the Lord as we pray for unity. Love one another, and be of one mind, so you may live in peace.

Always be faithful, be loving and true so that God's peace and love is living in you.

O Lord, come work among us. Move like we've never seen. Come now and cleanse us, come work within us, draw us together, draw us together again.

The Wesley Choir anthem also reflects the perfect love of God experienced in His presence.

"In His Presence" arr. by Tammy Waldrop

Hebrews 10:22-24

...let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

God's Great Peace to You!

Diana B.

PECAN SALE

The Joyful Noise Sunday school class is selling pecans again, and we are happy to announce the prices remain the same as last year. Please see any member of the Joyful Noise class to place your order. Our first order is due Oct. 10th, a second order will be placed November 7, and a final order December 5. Thank you for supporting this mission project!

Prices

- 1 lb. halves \$12.00
- 1/2 lb halves \$7.00
- 1 lb. pieces (large, medium, small) \$12.00
- 1/2 lb. chocolates (dark, milk, white) \$8.00

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.

REMEMBER

If, for some reason, you did not receive your weekly Newsletter, you can read it on our website www.wynntonumc.org.

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 UMC | 2412 Wynnton Road



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

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	Jim Accordino
Tom Hart	

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



The time is finally here! This past Sunday, a small group of us gathered to consecrate the Wynnton Community Little Free Pantry & Library and to pray over both those who will fill the boxes and those who find a need in them. This project began as a vision and is now being put into action by the volunteers who have committed to filling them every day so that those who walk by them may have their needs met.

At the blessing service on Sunday, I talked about how Jesus consolidated the law into the Two Greatest Commandments: Love God, and Love Neighbor (Matthew 22:35-40). We obey those two commandments by not only meeting the spiritual needs of others as laid out in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), but also by meeting the physical needs of others - feeding people, clothing people, caring for people - as if we were serving Jesus himself (Matthew 25:31-40). Jesus not only preached and taught about caring for those who are in need or are marginalized by society - he modeled it for us in his actions over and over again. We love God and love our neighbor by being the hands and feet of Jesus to them - not just with our words, but with our actions. St. Francis of Assisi said "preach the Gospel at all times - and when necessary, use words."

I am so thankful for those who are rising to the challenge of caring for neighbor. Rob Harbison took my vision and he designed and constructed beautiful "houses" that elicit dignity from those who use them. We filled them for the first time on Sunday at the blessing service and they are already being used. I imagine as word spreads about their existence, they will begin to be emptied on a daily basis. My prayer is that one day they will no longer be needed and, as beautiful as they are, they can be taken down because there are no more hungry bellies.

We do still have two slots available for monthly volunteers (the 26th and 27th of each month), if you are interested. Please contact me and I'll get you signed up!

Alaina Harrison

alainaaharrison@gmail.com



Children's Programs

Pumpkins are full of goop and gunk when we first open them. In order to use pumpkins as a light to the world, we have to clean them out. When we accept Jesus, he cleans out the gunk we call sin and makes us into something new! 2 Corinthians 16-21

A pumpkin is still a pumpkin until we put a light inside. Then they become something bright, shining a light for kids on Halloween. God wants us to let his light shine in our hearts so the world can know about Jesus.

Matthew 5:13-16

No two pumpkins are shaped alike, and no two jack-o-lanterns look alike. They are all unique, just like us. We were all created uniquely by the God who loves us.

John 12:20-22

The sad thing about jack-o-lanterns is they don't last. They all rot and decay. Our bodies won't last forever either, but if the light of Christ is in us, we can go to Heaven and receive a new body.

2 Corinthians 5:1-12

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.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

September 26: 1 John 4, Ezra 1-2, Psalm 91
September 27: 1 John 5, Ezra 3-4, Psalm 92
September 28: 2 John, Ezra 5-6, Psalm 93
September 29: 3 John, Ezra 7-8, Psalm 94
September 30: Jude, Ezra 9-10, Psalm 95
October 1: Revelation 1, Nehemiah 1-2, Psalm 96
October 2: Revelation 2, Nehemiah
 Psalm 97

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

27 Bill Pope
 28 Kaye Hill, Jeffrey Therrien, Virginia
 Toelle, JJ Yates
 29 Brittany Evans, Heather Lipp, Jennifer
 Therrien
 30 Linda McLendon
 1 Carolynn Wilkes
 2 Helen Fuller

OUR STEWARDSHIP

9-12-21
 General Fund.....14,399.45
 Backpacks of Grace.....20.00
 UMCOR.....500.00
 Missions.....38.25
 Other Contributions.....28.00
 Wynnton Arts Academy.....60.00

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 26

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 27

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

Wednesday, September 29

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
 6:00 p.m. Prayer Chapel - Alpha Bldg.
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 30

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

SUNDAY'S SERMON

The Critical Lesson - Part 2
Joshua 1:1-9
 Rev. J Grantham

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies Sept. 24-26
 Rev. Greg Harrison 478-955-1577