

Food for thought from J

May 15, 2022

Yesterday, after preaching a sermon on the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, I had an interesting discussion with one of our members. The conversation centered on one of the key points I had made in this message which was the total disregard the rich man in the parable had for Lazarus, a man who was poor and needy in almost every physical respect. In my remarks, I encouraged each of us, including me, to be vigilant in looking out for the Lazaruses in our lives who, like the character in this familiar parable, would eat the crumbs that fall from our table, to which this member raised the very valid and difficult questions – “but what is enough?” and “What kind of help should we be giving?”

These are not only legitimate questions, but also, it is important they be addressed to ensure that our efforts to help do not have the exact opposite effect. When I was in seminary, three different classes required the reading of a 2009 book entitled, When Helping Hurts, that, among other things, provides warnings about and examples of how the church’s best-intentioned gestures of helping individuals and communities in need can, in fact, exacerbate underlying problems and make them worse. This happens when, among other things, we make the mistake of thinking that material or monetary aid is the solution to most of the problems facing the needy in our community.

Now, despite its intent, this kind of cautionary logic can, if we aren’t careful, have the effect of dampening our response to the mandate we received from Jesus himself to respond to the cries of the needy. But it should do just the opposite. As we acknowledge our sacred and undeniable obligation to utilize our blessings to bless those around us, we need to look deeper and take stock of all our blessings and gifts, spiritual and material, in light of the myriad needs of those who are suffering. When our consideration of how we should answer the call to help looks deeper into the needs of those we seek to help, we will inevitably discover they often have spiritual, emotional, and physical needs that will never be met by money alone.

This is where ministries like Wynnton Neighborhood Housing and the new Trinity House homelessness initiative can be so important for the people they serve and for those of us seeking to be faithful to the teaching of Christ. While these kinds of ministries certainly offer critical financial assistance, they also help to satisfy some of those less obvious and tangible needs that may be contributing to the ongoing poverty of families or individuals like the need for self-reliance, esteem, worth, and accountability.

For us as Christians, these ministries provide numerous and more meaningful ways to be engaged with those being served. Whether it is through financial support, helping with construction or yard maintenance, or engaging with the recipients of the service more directly, if we are willing to look more critically at our own gifts and blessings and commit to using them in a more meaningful and directed manner, we can know we are moving toward an acceptable answer to those above questions like “what is enough,” and “what kind of help should we be giving?”

Praise God that Wynnton is a church that asks these important questions, not to minimize its ministerial efforts, but to make sure it is being faithful to the teaching of our savior. May God bless Wynnton and its efforts to serve the Lazaruses all around us.

IN MEMORIAM

Jean McGlamry
May 9, 2022

“In my Father’s house are many mansions...”

The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of our grandchildren, Hannah, Hudson and Henry by Rob and Gloria Garrett.

LOVE AND SYMPATHY

To Judy and Don Davidson on the death of her brother, Jimmy Kent, of Panama City, FL on May 3, 2022.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Jimmy Kent** by Lynn & Bill White; Zane Draughon

In memory of **Rusty Abernathy** by Sarah & Steve Croft

CONGRATULATIONS

Clint Martin will be graduating from the University of Georgia School of Law with a Juris Doctor (J.D.) in Law on May 21. He will be returning to UGA for fall semester to finish his Master's of Accounting degree.



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.

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

Sunday's Anthem, "He Loved Me" by Tom Fettke, begins with a powerful narration based on Ephesians 1:4-5. We are reminded that God chose us before the world was known. He made us, He loved us, He bought us and redeemed us through Jesus Christ His Son. Composer Tom Fettke responds to this opening declaration that "we are loved" with the assurance that we cannot be separated from God's Love. Fettke beautifully develops his musical response based on Romans 8:38, a favorite scripture for many of us. The use of contrasting pairs in the scripture and in the anthem is remarkable. Each pair presents extreme opposites in meaning and in the case of the music, is reinforced by the treatment of the melody. As believers, may we hear the words of this scripture as they are sung, and be convinced and convicted that nothing shall separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus.

"He Loved Me" by Tom Fettke

Narration:

God chose us to be His very own before the creation of the world. "He decided to make us holy in his eyes, without a single fault - we who stand before him covered with his love. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And He did this because he wanted to!" (Eph. 1:4-5, TLB)

He chose me before the world was known. He chose me to be His very own. He made me, then let me choose my way, I chose to move away. He loved me when hope had taken wing. He loved me when I lost everything. He bought me; redemption's work was done through Jesus Christ, His Son. Who shall separate me from the love of God? Shall dreams of tomorrow, pain, or sorrow? Can the need of food or earthly possessions, the threat of war or man's oppression? In all these things victory is our reward. Victory is our reward through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, not height, nor depth, nor any creature shall separate me from the love of God. Of this I am sure, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, not height, nor depth, nor any creature shall separate me from the love of God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God's Great Peace to You!
Diana B.

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.

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. on the second floor of the Grimes building.

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, (706) 289-3082.

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 5th. 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 5th. 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 29th, 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

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!!

Trinity House Update

Wynnton Neighborhood Housing will get access to Trinity House next week and be able to begin work to repurpose the property as temporary housing for homeless families.

We are planning our first workday on Saturday, May 21 from 8:30 until 1:00. If you would like to volunteer contact Bill White (706) 527-3309.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- May 15:** Acts 22:30-23:22, Judges 19, Psalm 44
- May 16:** Acts 23:23-24:9, Judges 20, Psalm 45
- May 17:** Acts 24:10-27, Judges 21, Psalm 46
- May 18:** Acts 25, Ruth 1-2, Psalm 47
- May 19:** Acts 26:1-18, Ruth 3-4, Psalm 48
- May 20:** Acts 26:19-32, 1 Samuel 1-2:11, Psalm 49
- May 21:** Acts 27:1-12, 1 Samuel 2:12-36, Psalm 50

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 15 Bart Wilson
- 16 Ranny Carmack, Mike Stephens
- 18 George Lotz, Zach Smith

OUR STEWARDSHIP

5-8-22	
General Fund.....	25,280.00
Music.....	25.00
Other Contributions.....	382.00
Sunday School.....	30.01

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

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 May. 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.

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

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

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

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.brapp.com/2022ACVolunteerRegistration>.

Flower Delivery

Linda Twiggs

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Waiting
Acts 1:3-11, Psalm 130:5-6
Rob Harbison

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies May 13-15
Rev. J Grantham 706-681-3258

GRADUATES

Please call the church office (706-324-2424) with information on those who are completing degrees at the College or Graduate School level. We would like to mention them in the bulletin.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, May 15

- 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, May 17

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

Wednesday, May 18

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Chapel & Book Study - Pathfinders Class
7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting
7:15-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 19

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.
10:30 a.m. Preschool Graduation