

**Food for thought from J**

**March 6, 2022**

A few months ago, I was excited to report to the church about a generous bequest we would be receiving, in late 2021 and early 2022, from the estate of James Derrell Gibson. Today I want to provide you with an update on this bequest:

Just last week we received the final anticipated major disbursement from the estate. This payment, along with three previous disbursements received in 2021, brings the total amount received to \$1,890,573. While there may be a final disbursement before the estate is closed, we should expect it to be relatively small. Now, according to the provisions of the Endowment Fund Resolution of the church, because the funds were not designated by the donor for any specific purpose or ministry, they must become part of the endowment fund and subject to the restrictions on how much is available to the church on an annual basis and how the funds can be utilized.

When news of this gift was first made public, however, many within our congregation saw this for the divine blessing that it is. Subsequently, they expressed a hope that this special and unexpected gift might be used for investment in ministries impacting the future of our church beyond the limits of the Endowment Fund. As a result, our Trustees, who are responsible for accepting gifts of this nature by our Book of Discipline, took two immediate actions. First, they approved a legal review of the Endowment Fund Resolution for the purpose of updating its wording and addressing potentially archaic language in the document. This review was also approved by the Endowment Fund Trustees during their most recent meeting in February. The second step was to approve the formation of a special deliberative committee comprised of key administrative leaders in the church and 4 at-large members. This team has been asked to consider the circumstances of this specific gift, receive questions and ideas about the gift from our members, and ultimately, to make recommendations about how our church can fulfill our mandate to be “good and faithful servants” with this wonderful blessing. In addition to the pastors, the members of this group are:

- |                |              |               |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Jenny Horton   | Tommy Hudson | Deb McCranie  |
| Bob Ottman     | Gena Tincher | Bill White    |
| Rob Harbison   | Cindy Autry  | David Pringle |
| Alyssa Edwards | Mike Johnson | John Bray     |

To help us achieve one of the main goals in forming this group, we hope you will feel comfortable contacting any member of this team with questions, suggestions, or feedback you might have about the future of our church and, specifically, the faithful use of this special financial blessing. The group held its first meeting last Sunday and it will continue to meet on a regular basis to deliberate over any input received from our members and to seek God’s will for Wynnton in the months and years ahead.

I ask you to be in prayer for our church, and for this group in particular, as we seek God’s will in building and living God’s kingdom at Wynnton.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Alice and William Bickerstaff  
7977 Ballantyne Way  
Columbus, GA 31909

**EASTER LILIES**



The cost of Easter Lilies will be \$15.00 each this year. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. See the attached form.

*The Chancel Flowers are given in memory of Bettie Watkins by the Wynnton Staff.*

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of **Larry Googe** by Suzanne Supple;  
New Seekers Class

## WYNNTON KIDS

I am so excited for where God is taking Wynnton's kids. They are working their way through stories in both the Old and New Testament with experiments, object lessons, games, crafts, and snacks to help them dive deeper into the Word of God. I've heard it said that kids don't just want to hear the story. They want to experience it by tasting it, getting their hands into it, and really using all five senses to engage with it. That has been a main focus of this ministry, that as we provide fun activities for them to immerse themselves in the stories, that they would not only grasp important concepts but that they would ultimately love God's Word and want to read it for themselves and develop personal relationships with Christ because of it. We try to create amazing memories for them to recall when they are older, which will help reinforce the stories beyond Sunday morning. This is no easy feat, but it is one worth striving towards!

I've received requests to serve with Wynnton Kids. If the idea of raising up kids to be passionate followers of Christ that inspire others to wholeheartedly pursue Him excites you, send me an email at [mgross@wynntonumc.org](mailto:mgross@wynntonumc.org). I would love to talk with you more about how we can utilize your gifts for God's purposes in these children's lives.

The choirs of St. Thomas Episcopal and St. Luke UMC will be giving a concert  
Sunday, March 6, at St. Thomas @ 5:00 p.m.  
The concert is called "Great Anthems of Faith".  
They are asking for canned food and/or donations for  
Wynnton Neighborhood Network.  
Please come support and enjoy this special event!!

The wife of our former pastor, David Blalock, is undergoing difficult medical treatments. Prayers, cards and letters are appreciated and may be sent to:

Patsy Blalock  
5249 Windmill Pl  
Evans, GA 30809

## 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. A bag will be in each SS class for these items. There will also be a bin in the hall for items. The goal is to pack 250 boxes this year!

In March, we are collecting toothbrushes (in their package with no toothpaste) and bars of soap. We will continue to collect hair brushes, plain ball caps, hair bands & large combs.

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:

14 Hair Brushes  
4 Ball caps

## Youth Sunday School



Youth Sunday School meets in the Basement from 9:45-10:45 AM Sunday mornings. Students in 6th through 12th grade are welcome to join us for coffee, donuts, and topical discussions of God's word. Eliza Daffin leads us in March. If you haven't been in a while, now is the perfect time to lean back in! For info or if you're interested in volunteering with the youth, contact Rob Harbison, [r.harbison@mchsi.com](mailto:r.harbison@mchsi.com), (706) 289-3082.

### WYNNTON UMC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for the 2022 College Scholarship. The scholarship is for members of Wynnton pursuing any field of study at an accredited school of higher learning. Applications along with guidelines for the scholarship are now available in the church office. All applications must be received in the church office no later than **May 1, 2022**. For further information, please call the church office at 706-324-2424.

### WYNNTON ARTS ACADEMY NEEDS

1. School supplies--teachers need glue sticks, pencils, markers, notebook paper
2. Cookie decorating supplies: sprinkles, small candies like M&Ms, or Skittles, small containers of icing, plastic spoons, small paper plates.
3. Bags of individually wrapped candy for the end-of-school-year celebration of positive behavior rewards.

Please deliver to the door of the school or leave in the blue bin at church for Shirley Wright to deliver.

### 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.

### 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 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.

### JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

Sunday, March 6, is our first Sunday in Lent. What a wonderful opportunity to renew our Covenant with God! The Wynnton Choirs will sing worshipful music that calls us to accept the gift of God's Grace, to open our lives to God, and to make room for God in our hearts. The Wesley Choir anthem, *Change My Heart, O God with Purer in Heart*, reflects on the desire to purify our hearts and become more like Christ. The Chancel Choir anthem, *I Am No Longer My Own*, is a profoundly beautiful arrangement of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer.

"I Am No Longer My Own" by Mary McDonald  
*I am no longer my own, I am no longer my own but yours!  
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
I am no longer my own, I am no longer my own, but yours!  
Let me be employed for you, laid aside for you, be exalted for you, or brought low for you, for you.  
Let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely yield all things.  
And now glorious blessed God, Father and Son and Holy Spirit, You are mine and I am yours. So be it! I am yours. So be it! You are mine and I am yours. I am yours. Amen.*

Wesley's prayer, number 607 in our hymnal, is not just a prayer of thought, but also a prayer of action. It considers our desire to be useful in our service to God. With these words, we are reminded to give all that we are and all that we have to God. God is our Creator and we are His creation.

Colossians 1: 16

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him.*

God's Great Peace to You!  
Diana B.

### Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexie McRae
Glenn Killough	Kathy Draughon
Matthew Allen	Dorothy Robinson
Bobby Porch	Kerry Mess
Lillian Cox	Jennefer Spell
Lynn Christenson	Jim Accordino
Beverly Ragsdale	Gwen Bolin
Jean McGlamry	Joyce Hawkins
Aubrey Walker	Margie Spurlin
The Meacham Family	Denise Hill
Jimmy Kent	Patsy Blalock

### 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 Jeanette Bunch  
Family of Wanda Jones  
Family of Carole Mitchell  
Family of Brad Trim  
Family of Lenore Ash  
Family of Larry Googe

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, March 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

#### Monday, March 7

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

#### Tuesday, March 8

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

#### Wednesday, March 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, March 10

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Bldg.  
9:45 a.m. Backpacks of Grace  
6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

### READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

**March 6:** Matthew 11:1-19, Leviticus 11-12, Proverbs 24  
**March 7:** Matthew 11:20-30, Leviticus 13, Proverbs 25  
**March 8:** Matthew 12:1-21, Leviticus 14, Proverbs 26  
**March 9:** Matthew 12:22-50, Leviticus 15-16, Proverbs 27  
**March 10:** Matthew 13:1-23, Leviticus 17-18, Proverbs 28  
**March 11:** Matthew 13:24-58, Leviticus 19, Proverbs 29  
**March 12:** Matthew 14:1-21, Leviticus 20-21, Proverbs 30

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6	J.T. Taylor
7	Avery Dryman, Doug Morris
9	Jim Fuller, Ryan Toelle
10	Ruthann Tincher
11	Brad Carne, Allison Ehouse, Jamie Massey

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

#### **2-27-22**

General Fund.....	8,176.00
Endowment.....	20.00
Missions.....	35.00
Other Contributions.....	15.00

#### **Flower Delivery**

Betty Woodruff/Shirley Wright

#### **SUNDAY'S SERMON**

*A Change of Heart*  
Luke 3:1-18

Rev. J Grantham

#### **PASTOR ON-CALL**

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

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**WYNNTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*Easter Lilies*



NAME OF DONOR: \_\_\_\_\_

Lilies given:

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

You may pick up your lily after the 11:00 a.m. service on April 17.

Please fill out this form and return to the church office along with your payment of \$15.00 each.

Return No Later Than  
Sunday, April 3, 2022  
Thank you.

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