

# Methodist Messenger

Monthly Newsletter  
of Jennings United Methodist Church  
May 2021

## From the Pastor's Desk...

### *What's Next!*

Easter begins with the resurrection and the world becomes transformed because of that moment in time. What's next? Why Pentecost, that's what. That is the day the winds blew throughout the land and the voice of God was heard. No it wasn't George Burns it was God. The "I AM" spoke and Peter and the disciples baptized 5,000 men as well as a host of women and children. That is what is next.

Growing up my Grandma Ellen worked for a very nice family as the caretaker of their cabin in the woods. It was a very nice house with many bedrooms and a large den. The doors were French doors that opened onto a patio which led to a stone swimming pool built by my Grandpa Bill.

One the things I remember is going over to the big house to freshen it up for Mrs. Reimers. When I would first walk into the house it always had a musty smell. Of course it may have been three months or more since the house had been opened. My job was to go around and open up all the windows and doors to let in fresh air. The breeze passing through the house made all the difference in the world.

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### May Worship

May 2<sup>nd</sup> Fifth Sunday of Easter –  
1 John 4:7-21~LOVE

Scripture Reader: Shirley Parker

Prelude: "The Love of God"

Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Anthem: "Love Is Here"

Communion Song: "Come to the Altar"

Praise Song: "I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

May 9<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day  
1 John 5:1-6~Obedience

Scripture Reader: Ryleigh Crochet

Prelude: "God Gave You to Me"

Hymn: "Our Parent, by Whose Name"

Anthem: "The Family Prayer Song"

Mother's Day Special: "Mom-isms"

Praise Song: "The Blessing"

May 16<sup>th</sup> Ascension Sunday/7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter –  
Isaiah 64:1-12~All Things Work for Good

Scripture Reader: Craig Crochet

Prelude: "Canvas and Clay"

Hymn: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Anthem: "The Potter's Hand"

Praise Song: "Way Maker"



## May Worship Continued...

May 23<sup>rd</sup> Pentecost Sunday –

Acts 2:1-21~The Breath of God

Scripture Reader: Emma Jean Goodreau

Prelude: "Breathe"

Hymn: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Anthem: "Holy Spirit" with "Holy Spirit, Rain Down"

Praise Song: "Start a Fire"

May 30<sup>th</sup> Trinity Sunday –

John 3:1-17~How Can This Be?

Scripture Reader: Richard McGregor

Prelude: "Praise the Father,  
Praise the Son"

Hymn: "To God Be the Glory"

Anthem: Amazing Love Medley

Praise Song: "This I Believe  
(The Creed)"

## New Music in May...

### WE HAVE NEW MUSIC COMING TO WORSHIP THIS MONTH!

I would like to invite you to check out some new songs that will be a part of our worship services in the month of May. We have several special Sundays this month.

- The second Sunday of May is Mother's Day.
- The third Sunday of May is Ascension Sunday and Youth Sunday.
- The fourth Sunday of May is Pentecost Sunday.
- The fifth Sunday of May is Trinity Sunday.

Whew! Lots of awesome things planned for these special worship experiences. It is an awesome time to introduce our church to some wonderful pieces of music. There is a great blend of "old" and "new" (as everyone likes to label them).

May the Lord place a song in your heart and His praise upon your lips!

In Christ,  
Sarah

## From the Pastor's Desk Continued ...

As I reflect back on those days I wonder if that is sort of how it may have been on that first day of Pentecost. The Hebrew word for a mighty rushing wind is ruach (ruach) and represents the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Greek word for wind is pneuma meaning breath.

I believe that is what I experienced growing up each time I opened the lodge. I believe that God comes to us sometimes as ruach to remove the old staleness in our lives and then to replace the void with pneuma (the breath of God).

Sounds a little like spring cleaning, right? So maybe Pentecost is a time to release the old in me and become a new and right person of Christ. What better way to describe Pentecost.

If we would unclutter our lives and homes to make room for the light of Christ and join in the proclamation, "HE IS ALIVE AND HAS BEEN RESURRECTED FROM THE GRAVE!" then we could show the world the TRUTH.

My prayer for you is for the light of Christ to be embedded in your heart so that you can be transformed into His likeness.

*May God bless your home and may all that God has placed in your care receive His blessing.*

*See you in Sunday School and worship this Sunday.*

*Your pastor and friend,*

*Walter*



# JUMC Youth Updates...

We have had a busy month of work & play last month! We first started off April by going on a long overdue outing! During Spring Break I took the youth to a Pottery Class in Welsh with Shelby Roberie Trahan if you are looking for something fun to do this is a must!! She is opening a shop in Welsh called Jacque's Pottery!!

We had so much fun learning how to make pottery and you will get to see their work on display on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>! We will be celebrating Youth Sunday and celebrating our Seniors! We have 3 seniors this year! Ethan Corkran, Tanner Fontenot, and Madison Welch.

We would also like to welcome Kylie Price to our group! She has moved here from Texas and was excited to have her join us for our outing!!

We would also like to give a BIG Thank You! To everyone who came out and supported us for our Rummage Sale Fundraiser! We could not do it without your help and support!! Next stop BIGSTUF CAMP!!

We will be leaving for camp the week of June 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> but before that we plan to volunteer as a youth group to help with VBS!

I would like to thank my husband James for cooking our burgers and Eric for helping! Also my daughter Alison for baking cookies to sell!! It takes all of us together to make these fundraisers a success!! A big thanks to my people in ministry Kim and Sarah I could not do what I do without their support!! Our group is truly blessed!!

God Bless,  
Crystal





# Children's & Youth Sunday School Updates...



APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup>:

## SERIES OVERVIEW – Finding Treasure Along the Romans Road

The Romans Road is a way of understanding why we as people need to be saved, and how we can accept Jesus as our Savior. It is called the Romans Road because all of the Scripture references are found in the book of Romans, Paul's letter to the Roman church. In this series, kids and youth will travel down the Romans Road – learning life-giving verses along the way – on a journey from sin and separation from God, to peace and eternal life with God. An X, or rather a cross, marks the spot for the greatest treasure anyone could ever find – eternal life with Jesus. They will learn that salvation through Jesus is the ultimate treasure.

### WEEKLY LESSONS & MEMORY VERSES

#### 1-Quick Sand – Scripture: Romans 3:23

God is perfect and his ways are perfect. Every one of us have sinned – disobeyed and acted in ways that fell short of God's perfection. We have all sinned and fallen short of God's perfection.

**"Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory." – Romans 3:23 NIRV**



#### 2-Walking In The Dark – Scripture: Romans 6:23a

If you've ever disobeyed your mom and dad and gotten a time out, you know what a consequence is. A consequence is the punishment for doing the wrong thing. The Bible tells us that sin – disobeying God – has a consequence as well. The consequence is to be apart from God forever. Since we have all sinned, we all deserve that same punishment. Everyone has sinned, and sin comes with a consequence.

**"When you sin, the pay you get is death." – Romans 6:23a NIRV**



#### 3-A Light Up Ahead – Scripture: Romans 6:23b

We all deserve the consequence for the sin that we have committed. But God loves us and has provided another way, the way of life. Jesus came and took our consequence for us, so we didn't have to experience it.

God offers us the gift of life. **"When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done." – Romans 6:23 NIRV**



#### 4-Clear Path – Scripture: Romans 10:9

Salvation – which means being free from the eternal consequence of sin – comes only from God. Romans 10:9 tells us how we can all receive salvation. To be saved, we must put our faith in Jesus.

**"Say with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord.' Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved." – Romans 10:9 NIRV**



#### 5-A Place To Rest – Scripture: Romans 5:1

When we put our faith in Jesus, he makes us right with God and brings us peace. We have peace because we know that even though we make mistakes, God forgives us because Jesus paid our sin price for us. Our faith in Jesus makes us right with God.

**"We have been made right with God because of our faith. Now we have peace with him because of our Lord Jesus Christ." – Romans 5:1 NIRV**



#### 6-Treasure – Scripture: Romans 8:38-39

When we find Jesus, we find a treasure. One that no one can ever take away for eternity. Salvation is a treasure that lasts.

**"I am absolutely sure that not even death or life can separate us from God's love. Not even angels or demons, the present or the future, or any powers can separate us. Not even the highest places or the lowest, or anything else in all creation can separate us. Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done." – Romans 8:38-39 NIRV**



# Honor Your Mother



We are interrupting our regularly scheduled Sunday school series to bring you this very special Mother's Day lesson...

Our key passage for this lesson comes from Ruth 1. It's the story of Ruth honoring Naomi. We will learn about how God has given each of us mothers to teach and care for us. We will be reminded that we should always be thankful for our Moms.

We will talk about how Moms have a hard job. They spend the first few years of our lives just keeping us alive, and they spend the rest of our lives teaching us how to love God and be wise. Moms have a special role in our lives, and we should appreciate our mothers and be thankful for them.

We would love to have your young person join us for this special lesson. We gather at 9:15 in the sanctuary for a brief time of worship before our Class at 9:30.

Special  
Lesson for  
Mother's  
Day

May 9,  
2021



**"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."  
- Exodus 20:12 (NIV)**

Honor Your Mother



Memory  
Verse



# Small Group Opportunities for Adults...

## JUMC Women's Sunday School



The ladies are finishing their current study, Messy People. Below you will find some food for thought from Jacquie regarding the ladies' Sunday school class...

- We can be God's servants today by reaching out to others, either in our congregation or outside of our church.
- Who could we invite?
- Would you be willing to sponsor a new member by buying their book?

Over the summer, would you like to plan a gathering at a time outside of Sunday morning to invite the women of our church and explore ideas to include them?

### \*\*\*\*UPCOMING STUDY (Beginning May 23<sup>rd</sup>)

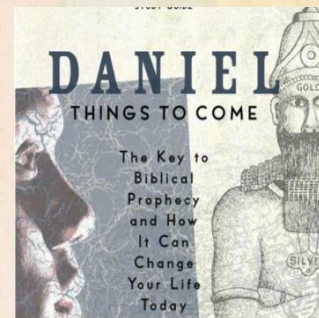
Discover how God is pursuing you as you explore His relentless love from Genesis to Revelation in *Pursued* by Jennifer Coward.

We all want to be loved. We long to be desired, *pursued* – whether by a special someone, our friends, or others in our lives. This longing for love and acceptance is the underlying story of many of our lives and it's the overarching story we see throughout the Scriptures. Although the Bible tells many stories, the main theme is God's relentless love for us. In *Pursued*, a six-week Bible study by Jennifer Cowart, we will explore God's great love for us from Genesis to Revelation. We will see that God passionately pursues people who do not deserve His love, and we are those people! Like Cain, Abraham, Sarah, Rebekah, David, the woman caught in adultery, Peter, and so many others, we are the ones who have broken relationship with God. But He runs after us anyway to bring us home.

\*\*\*Current study book cost is \$12.00. Next study book cost is \$12.00. Please let the office know if you need a book for the next study or wish to sponsor a book for someone.

## JUMC Men's Sunday School

### Sunday School Updates



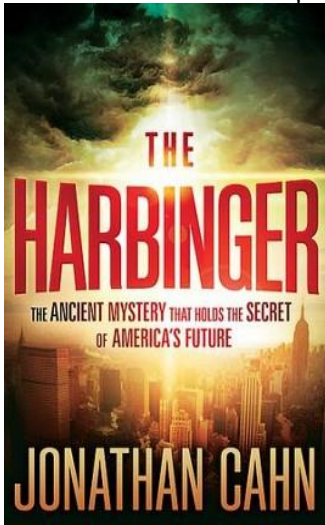
The men's group is currently studying the book of Daniel. The group meets Sunday mornings at 9 :15 a.m. in the men's Sunday school room and is led by Richard McGregor.

Things to Come...The Key to Biblical Prophecy and How It Can Change Your Life Today. Perspective is everything. This study of the Book of Daniel is the key to unlocking all other Biblical passages. It is about finding our place in this journey and how knowing the end gives even more purpose, peace and intensity to living for Today. Tommy Nelson is one of America's premier teachers and one of the most gifted communicators in taking "big" pieces of Scripture and helping us understand them. **All men are invited to join the group on Sunday mornings as they spend time together learning more about the book of Daniel.**

**The Disciple IV Bible Study Group is continuing to meet on Monday evenings at its usual time.**



## JUMC Women's Book Study



Is it possible...

That there exists an ancient mystery that holds the secret of America's future?

That this mystery lies behind everything from 9/11 to the collapse of the global economy?

That ancient harbingers of judgment are now manifesting in America?

That God is sending America a prophetic message of what is yet to come?

Before its end as a nation, there appeared in ancient Israel nine specific warnings and omens of national destruction – These same nine Harbingers are now manifesting in America with profound ramifications for America's future and end-time prophecy. Hidden in an ancient biblical prophecy from Isaiah, the mysteries revealed in The Harbinger are so precise that they foretell recent American events down to the exact days; the 3,000-year-old mystery that revealed the exact date of the stock market collapse of 2008; the ancient prophecy that was proclaimed from the floor of the US Senate and then came true; and more.

Omens from Isaiah 9 show God's anger with the people of Israel; and now, we as a nation, defy God again. How does this correlate with our future? The prophetic mysteries are factual but revealed through a riveting narrative the reader will find hard to put down. The Harbinger opens with the appearance of a man burdened with a message he has received from a mysterious figure called The Prophet. The Prophet has given him nine seals, each containing a message about America's future. As he tells of his encounters with the Prophet, from a skyscraper in New York City, to a rural mountaintop, to Capitol Hill, to Ground Zero, the mystery behind each seal is revealed. As the story unfolds, each revelation becomes another piece in a larger and larger puzzle, the ramifications of which are, even now, altering the course of America and the world.

Join us as we read this book together and study with one another. This will take place during our Wednesday small group time at 3:30.

## Make a Joyful Noise with New Music in May

### May 9: Mother's Day

#### "Our Parent, by Whose Name" – UMH #447

1. Our Parent, by whose name  
all parenthood is known,  
who in your love proclaim each family your own:  
direct all parents, guarding well,  
with constant love as sentinel,  
the homes in which your people dwell.
2. O Jesus, who, a child within an earthly home,  
with heart still undefiled did to adulthood  
come: our children bless in every place,  
that they may all behold your face,  
and knowing you may grow in grace.
3. Blest Spirit, who can bind our hearts in unity,  
and teach us so to find the love from self set free:  
in all our hearts such love increase that every home,  
by this release, may be the dwelling place of peace.

#### "The Family Prayer Song" – TFWS #2188

Come and fill our homes with your presence;  
you alone are worthy of our reverence.

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
We will serve the Lord.

Lord we vow to live holy,  
bowing our knees to you only.

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house,  
we will serve the Lord.  
We will serve the Lord.

As for me and my house,  
we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house,  
we will serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house,  
we will serve the Lord.  
We will serve the Lord.



## May 16: Youth Sunday

### **"Canvas and Clay" – Pat Barrett**

In my mother's womb You formed me with Your hands  
Known and loved by You Before I took a breath  
When I doubt it, Lord, remind me I'm wonderfully made  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay

#### **CHORUS:**

You make all things work together For my future and for my good  
You make all things work together For Your glory and for Your name

There's a healing light Just beyond the clouds  
Though I've walked through fire I see clearly now  
I know nothing has been wasted No failure or mistake  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay

#### **CHORUS**

When I doubt it, Lord, remind me I'm wonderfully made  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay  
And I know nothing has been wasted No failure or mistake  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay

#### **CHORUS**

When I doubt it, Lord, remind me I'm wonderfully made  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay  
I know nothing has been wasted No failure or mistake  
You're an artist and a potter I'm the canvas and the clay

## May 23: Pentecost Sunday

### **"Start a Fire" – Unspoken**

This world can be cold and bitter  
Feels like we're in the dead of winter  
Waiting on something better  
But am I really gonna hide forever?  
Over and over again I hear Your voice in my head  
Let Your light shine, let Your light shine for all to see

#### **CHORUS:**

Start a fire in my soul Fan the flame and make it grow  
So there's no doubt or denying  
Let it burn so brightly That everyone around can see  
That it's You, that it's You that we need  
Start a fire in me

You only need a spark to start a whole blaze  
It only takes a little faith  
Let it start right here in this city  
So these old walls will never be the same  
Over and over again I hear Your voice in my head  
They need to know I need to go  
Spirit won't You fall on my heart now

## May 30: Trinity Sunday

### **"This I Believe (The Creed)" – Hillsong Worship**

Our Father everlasting, The all creating One  
God Almighty,  
Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son. Jesus our Savior.

#### **CHORUS:**

I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in one  
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again  
For I believe in the name of Jesus

Our Judge and our Defender Suffered and crucified  
Forgiveness is in You  
Descended into darkness You rose in glorious life  
Forever seated high

#### **CHORUS**

I believe in You I believe You rose again.  
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord.  
And I believe in You. I believe You rose again.  
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

#### **CHORUS (2X)**

I believe in life eternal. I believe in the virgin birth.  
I believe in the saints' communion  
And in Your holy Church.  
I believe in the resurrection When Jesus comes again  
For I believe, in the name of Jesus.

#### **CHORUS (2X)**

For I believe in the name of Jesus  
For I believe in the name of Jesus

#### **CHORUS**

You are the fire, You are the flame  
You are the light on the darkest day  
We have the hope, we bear Your name  
We carry the news that You have come to save  
Only You can save

#### **CHORUS**

You are the fire, You are the flame  
You are the light on the darkest day  
Start a fire in me





## VBS IS COMING SOON!!!!

As is the way of most things so far this year, VBS has been over a year in the making ! We planned, prayed, and began to prepare for VBS over one year ago, and then...yep, COVID happened. As you can imagine, we are so excited to finally see the glimmers of some normalcy, and we are beginning to lay out the final plans for a highly-anticipated VBS.

We ask that you, our church family, support VBS. Some say that you just cannot do the activity portion of the program. Well, we still need you. Below are some ways you can help support VBS this year. If you would like more information about what we need to provide the best VBS experience possible, please contact the church office at 824-4079 or see Sarah or Crystal.

As always, EVERYONE can pray for our VBS...pray for the students attending...pray for those who are leading...pray for our youth volunteers. Prayer is a gift that we can all offer in support of Vacation Bible School at JUMC !

### WAYS YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT VBS :

- Save your cereal boxes and bring them to the church
- Donate money for additional supplies and meals
- Volunteer for kitchen duty
- Shepherd groups of students through the rotations
- Lead a rotation activity
- Help prepare decorations/set up/tear down

*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.  
 "Honor your father and mother" – which is the first  
 commandment with a promise – "so that it may go well  
 with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."  
 Ephesians 6:1-3 NIV*



## May Birthdays

5.1	Rhett Talley
5.5	Mitch Talley
5.7	Jeannie Fredrick
5.9	Margurite Carter
5.10	Dottie Earl
	Brownie Goodreau
5.11	Harley Domingue
5.12	Cade Domingue
5.15	Preston LaCombe
5.18	Nancy Allbritton
5.24	Jeremy Watson
5.27	Jill Cooper
5.30	Crystal Benoit
5.31	Brooklin Clement





## *Marc Lucado's Prayers for Moms...*

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*You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. —*

*Psalm 139:13-14*

Father, you are the creator of all. You knew me before I was born, and you know me intimately still. My identity is so wrapped up in my job as a mom that when I fail, I feel as if I am a failure as a person. But you know every part of me and still accept me. Remind me of this throughout my day.

May my children know that they are loved not only by their parents but by you. May they find their worth in you and not in what others say about them.

Thank you for creating my family and loving them even more than I do. Thank you for the simple joys and the extravagant love that abound in our home. Thank you for surrounding me with such an amazing family.

In Jesus' name, amen.

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*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us. —*

*Titus 3:5*

God, you are worthy of our praise and our gratitude. With everything in me, I praise you.

On days when I feel that I am at the end of myself, remind me that I don't need to be perfect. When I strive for perfection, I fall short. When I rely on you and not myself, I see how great you are. Teach me to focus on you.

Be with my kids today, and teach them that they must rely on you. Give them exactly what they need to get through today.

Thank you that I can rest in your promise of grace.

In Christ's name, amen.



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*You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. — Isaiah 26:3*

Dear God, your ways are perfect. Your will is good. You deserve all praise.

You have promised perfect peace to those who focus on you. Help me to keep my thoughts on you. When I rush ahead to the next plan or responsibility, bring me back to you and your goodness.

Help my children to fix their eyes on you when they experience fear or anxiety. Show them who you are, and grow their trust in you.

I am grateful for the gift of peace we have in you. Thank you for the example of faith that I see in my children's lives.

In your precious name I pray, amen.

