

Jennings United Methodist Church

From The Pastor's Desk.....

A Word of Witness: Life from the Sidelines A Word from your Pastor

In the mainstream of life there is so much going on that we sometimes get exhausted just thinking about all that needs our attention. There is tension in our churches, tension in our homes, tension with upcoming expectations, and tension within ourselves.

I have decided to fully retire from active ministry next May/June and with that comes a lot of tension. Other the last year I have been involved with settling the family estate and now I am getting the house repaired to move into. This requires changing the names on utilities and many other things. Last week Entergy turned off my power when they should have left it on. So, I came to Ponchatoula to clean out two refrigerators. Thankfully they were not full.

Power was restored at 6:45AM on 9/13. I awoke, had a cup of coffee, then went to Paul's Café for breakfast. It was a beautiful morning. As I sat inside by the window, I looked and saw a lot of activity. Workers were hauling heavy equipment to have ready at dark to pave main street, people were looking for parking places, others were gathering in groups to eat and fellowship, and everyone was smiling.

Then I noticed something. People who had been on the patio eating had left and the gleaners came to check things out. I recalled scriptures about the harvest. Leviticus 19:9-10 says don't reap to the corners of your field but leave that for those in need and the stranger in your midst. The gleaners this morning were the sparrows. They flew through to glean crumbs from under the tables.

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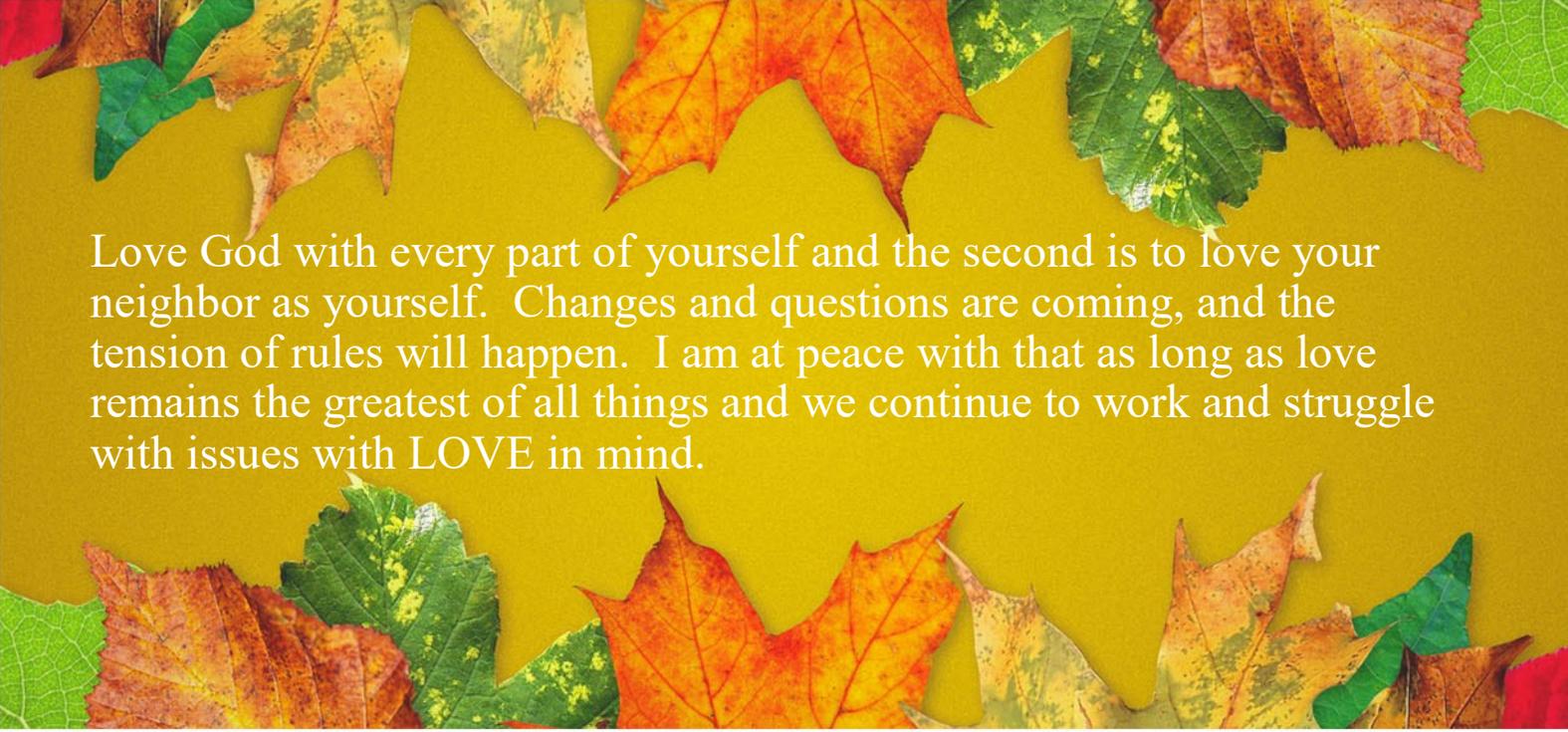
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From The Pastor's Desk Cont....

Which got me to thinking about another scripture. Matthew 6:25-34 tells us not to be anxious, consider the birds. . . What I discovered was a sense of peace with who I am and where I am in my journey. If I pay attention to my mission to follow Christ, love and respect all people, live as a disciple then I can finish the race and keep the faith like Paul.

When I turned my attention back inside the restaurant this is what I witnessed. All of the employees greeted everyone with a welcoming smile. One man came in to cool off and get a glass of water. He was welcomed and received his water. He greeted several others who were eating, and it was a neat experience. Tables were moved to accommodate patrons and people came and went. The mayor stopped and visited with me (high school classmate) and told me he is counting down the months to step down. I believe that Christ wants us to be like that. Stop fretting and love one another. We need churches where people can attend and feel that kind of love, where everyone knows your name and love abounds. No judgement, just old fashion love. Afterall isn't that what Jesus meant when asked about the greatest commandment?



Love God with every part of yourself and the second is to love your neighbor as yourself. Changes and questions are coming, and the tension of rules will happen. I am at peace with that as long as love remains the greatest of all things and we continue to work and struggle with issues with LOVE in mind.

May God bless your journey this day
and may you be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Blessing and peace.
See you in church this Sunday,

Walter
Your pastor and friend



Not Ashamed

WORSHIP SERIES

October 2nd

2 Timothy 1:1-14 Reader: Karen Daigle

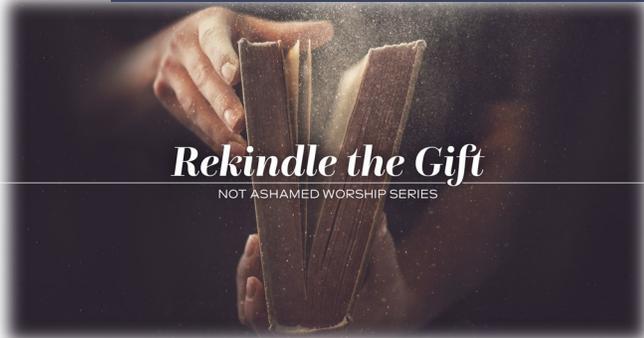
Prelude: "Make Us One"

Hymn: "I Know Whom I Have Believed" - UMH #714

Anthem: "Standing on the Promises"

Communion Song: "Do It Again"

Praise Song: "Way Maker"



Rekindle the Gift

NOT ASHAMED WORSHIP SERIES

October 9th

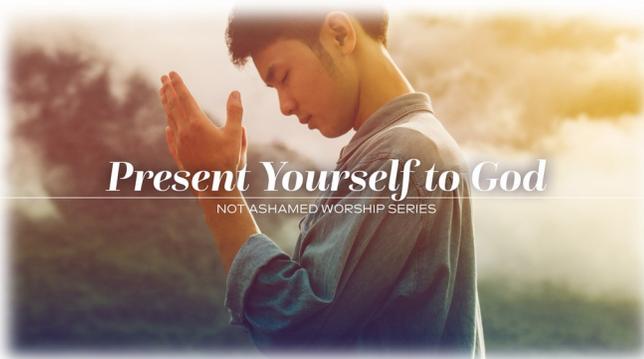
2 Timothy 2:8-15 Reader: Hazel Hoffpauir

Prelude: "Through All of It"

Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" UMH #89

Anthem: Faith and Trust Medley

Praise Song: "Lead Me to the Cross"



Present Yourself to God

NOT ASHAMED WORSHIP SERIES

October 16th/Laity Sunday

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Reader: Erin Precht

Prelude: "Covenant Prayer"

Hymn: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" - UMH 584

Anthem: "Settled at the Cross"

Praise Song: "The Blessing"



Itching Ears

NOT ASHAMED WORSHIP SERIES

October 23rd

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Reader: Emma Jean Goodreau

Prelude: "Came to My Rescue"

Hymn: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" - UMH #133

Anthem: "On the Banks of the Promised Land"

Praise Song: "God, You're So Good"



Poured Out

NOT ASHAMED WORSHIP SERIES



Face to Face with Jesus

WORSHIP SERIES

Man Out on a Limb

FACE TO FACE WITH JESUS WORSHIP SERIES

October 30th/Reformation Sunday

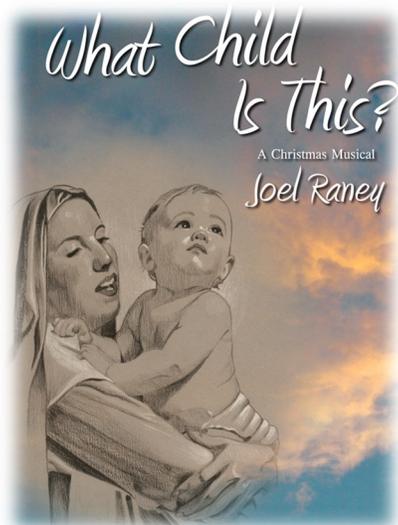
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Reader: Richard McGregor

Prelude: "Be Thou My Vision"

Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" - UMH #110

Anthem: "Jerusalem" with "Holy City"

Praise Song: "Waiting Here for You"



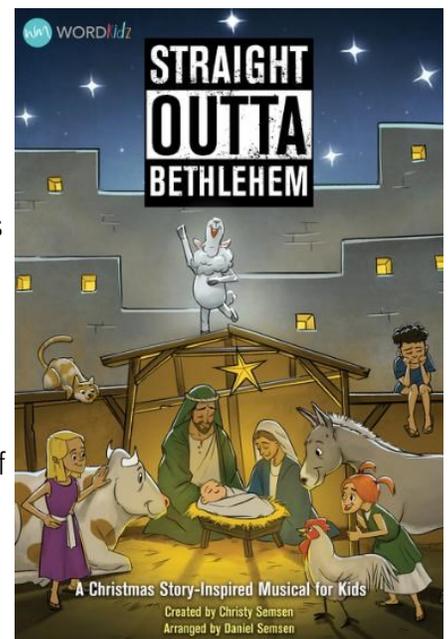
This year's Christmas cantata features both original and familiar carols. The seven musical selections are each colorful, bold statements in a variety of musical styles. We need two narrators (preferably one male and one female) to read the beautifully written narration that helps to retell the story and meaning behind Advent and Christmas. Please let Sarah know if you

would like to participate so that we can order your book and CD. The program music is as follows:

- Prologue - The Christmas Story
- Sing Gloria, Sing!
- Advent - Prophecy and Preparation
- Somebody Build a Manger
- The Question - What Child Is This?
- What Child Is This?
- Bethlehem - A Night of Wonder
- Calypso Carol
- The Christmas Truce - A Silent Night
- A Celtic Silent Night
- Celebration - The Many Colors of Christmas
- Sing Gloria, Sing! (Reprise)

All of us can be adopted into God's family. Here we are in the "sleepy" little village of Bethlehem. But in this tiny town something huge and miraculous is about to happen...the birth of the Messiah! Right in the midst of all the action is an irresistibly intrepid and indefatigable group of orphans who reside at the Inn of Bethlehem. Meet Starr, Zoolie, John Luke, Gertie, Magnus, and Blake (oh, and shepherds Zeke and Ziggy!). Along with Trixie, who runs the inn, this loveable ragamuffin group of characters will put a smile on your lips and a song in your heart as they unveil the story of Christmas and how God sent His only Son to be born, STRAIGHT OUTTA BETHLEHEM. As eyewitnesses to the holy, blessed event, their special re-telling of the story is sure to shine a bright new light on the importance of our Savior's birth!

We cannot wait to present STRAIGHT OUTTA BETHLEHEM as we share the musical theme: God is with us and we don't have to be alone! We need many young helpers to make this program possible. Please let Mrs. Sarah or Mrs. Crystal know if your children/youth are interested in participating.



Jr. High Youth 5th-8th grade

YOUTH

Sr. High Youth 9th-12th grade

MINISTRIES

This month we had various youth leaders that participated in "See You At The Pole" for our schools! This is a yearly program where youth gather around the flag poles to pray for their schools each year! I am super proud of all our youth that participated! We had Ryleigh Crochet & Kylie Price who led prayers at JHS, Eli Jolie led at WHS & Addison & Anya Price led at Hathaway.

We have continued to meet every Sunday afternoon from 4:00-5:30pm. We join together in the café together for fellowship, then we play a game together then we break off for our bible study time.

For the month of October we are planning a Pumpkin Carving party which will be held on Sunday, **October 16th** during youth. We are asking all youth to bring a pumpkin to carve that day!



I have started Confirmation classes on Sunday mornings during Sunday school at 9:15am. We have begun with the Old Testament lessons. We have 6 students that will be confirming this year. I ask that you be in prayer for me and our students going through this course because it's a long course. We go through the Old Testament, New Testament, and then we finish up with Methodist history & doctrine. It is important that the students do not miss too many classes. There are still other Sunday school classes available for students that are not taking confirmation classes!

I am in the process of planning a retreat, but with everything going on this fall I think I will wait to have it closer to January with football/band/softball/ and every other activity going on it would be too hard to plan so I have decided to postpone for a couple of months. If you would like to donate money or snacks to the youth group for Sunday afternoons we would be forever grateful. I have already received funds from members that I greatly appreciate that I use to purchase drinks and snacks for Sunday afternoons! We have about 10 to 20 youth attending youth on Sunday evenings!

Thank you for blessing our youth ministries program with your prayers & support!

Crystal, Kim, Sarah, & Erin (Youth Ministries Team)



BAD

GOOD BIBLE LESSONS
FROM BAD BIBLE VILLAINS

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



Good lessons from bad people...There are many great lessons to be learned from the heroes of the Bible, but there are some valuable lessons we can also learn from Bible villains. Some were motivated by greed and jealousy. Others were just plain evil. All of them though, have lessons we can learn from their mistakes to teach us about living for God and doing what is right. In this series, we will learn lessons about living a righteous life and avoiding temptation from some Bible villains.

Memory Verse: "There is a way that appears to be right. But in the end it leads to death." ~Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

Lesson 1: Delilah

Scripture: Judges 16:4-22, Samson and Delilah

Did she seek Samson out to destroy him, or was she a woman in love who was blackmailed into doing evil? Delilah's motives remain a mystery, but her story is a warning to all of us. We need to be aware that sometimes temptation comes not from an evil face, but the face of someone we trust and love. We will learn that we need to be on guard against temptation that comes through peer pressure from friends.

Lesson 2: Saul—Scripture: 1 Samuel 28:16-19, Saul Find Out He Is About To Die

Saul is the "Darth Vader" of the Old Testament. He was the chosen one, God's anointed king of Israel. Had he followed God, his descendants would have reigned over Israel for many years, but Saul's ego led him to rebel against God. We will learn that we must obey God's plans, and not expect Him to obey ours.

Lesson 3: Haman

Scripture: Esther 7, Haman Meets His Doom

Haman was an ambitious man who loved power and hated Mordecai. It was pride that drove Haman to try and destroy Mordecai and the Jews, but God used Esther to intervene and save his people. Objective: Kids will learn that to treat everyone with kindness and respect they cannot have pride in their hearts.

Lesson 4: Barabbas

Scripture: Mark 15:1-15, Jesus on Trial

Barabbas was a convicted criminal, tried and sentenced to die for crimes against the state. Yet Barabbas walked free when the crowds demanded Pilate execute someone else instead. We don't know what happened to Barabbas, but we do know that if we trust in Jesus, His death will give us new life, just as it literally did for Barabbas. Objective: Kids will learn that we, like Barabbas, are sentenced to die, but if we trust in Jesus we can be set free and receive eternal life.

Four Strange Things That Jesus Taught

When we really start to investigate, we find that Jesus said some pretty strange things when He was on earth – things that go against what we want and challenge the way we live our lives. This series looks at four of the strangest things Jesus said, and how they have the potential to change us if we have the courage to listen.

Memory Verse: "And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:27 (NIV)

Lesson 1: Hate Your Family - Scripture: Luke 9:57-62 & Luke 14:25-27, Cost of Following Jesus

Isn't Jesus all about love; then why did he tell people they had to hate their family in order to be his followers? Becoming a disciple of Jesus means putting Him and His Kingdom before everything else – including our wants and the desire to please or impress important people in our lives. We will learn that "Following Jesus means being completely devoted to Christ, even if family and friends don't support me."

Lesson 2: Dogs at the Dinner Table

Scripture: Matthew 15:21-28, The Canaanite Woman

Remember that time Jesus compared a woman to a dog? For the Jewish people of Jesus' time, it would not have seemed strange to refer to a foreign woman that way. But in making the comparison, Jesus actually revealed several important lessons. First, that sometimes the mission we think we are on, may not always be the mission God has for us. We should always be open to interruptions to our plans. Second, God's grace is truly for anyone who believes. We will learn that "God's grace is available to anyone who believes."

Lesson 3: Cut Off Your Hand Scripture: Matthew 18:6-9, Causing to Stumble

These passages illustrate how seriously God views sin, and how important eternity is in comparison to life on earth. Many distractions and obstacles will come along to distract us from Jesus. We have to be willing to eliminate them all in the pursuit of holiness. Jesus shows us with these strong words that there is nothing in this life more important than your relationship with God. We will learn that "There is nothing in this world that is worth trading eternity for."

Lesson 4: Greater Things Scripture: John 14:5-14, The Way to the Father

While comforting his disciples before his crucifixion, Jesus told them several things that we might find strange. First, he claimed to be the only way to God, which means all other religions are false. Next, despite all of the miraculous and amazing things Jesus did on earth, he told his disciples that they (we) would do even greater things. Objective: Students will learn that "God's Holy Spirit living inside us gives us the power to do great things for Him."

JENNINGS METHODIST CHURCH

October 31st

TRUNK ^{OR} TREAT

We will be selling BBQ
Hamburgers &
Sausage on a Bun
Drinks!

5PM-7PM

702 CARY AVENUE
(BACK PARKING LOT)



MEMBER

Spotlight



Our member spotlight this month is Kimberly Precht! This month is “Breast Cancer Awareness Month”. She and Tom started the Melissa Doise Cancer Foundation together, and she has kept it going all these years! She is a mighty warrior! We are blessed to have her be apart of our church family! She has blessed us through many ministries through the years by serving as a Sunday school teacher, leading as our VBS director for many years and still continues to volunteer for VBS still to this day! She serves as my other half in youth ministries. She serves in our community as well through our school system! She is always there for others and always ready to lend a hand when she is in need! Her strength and positivity is a testimony that God can get you through anything if you have faith! That is one of my favorite qualities about my friend Kimberly Precht! She loves her children and grandchildren! I know Tom is so proud of all the accomplishments she has made in the community when it comes to foundation! We love you Kimberly! Thank you for blessing us!!





Check out the many ways in which you can help our Outreach Ministry in the next several months...



Operation Christmas

Child Collection Week will be held November 14th-21st, 2022 Boxes will be ready to pick up to be filled this month! Our Outreach Ministry pays for the postage for our Christmas Child boxes.



We will receive 20 Angel Tree Gift Cards from the Methodist Foster Home! We will be collecting donations to fulfill the requests for these foster children for Christmas!



In November we will be collecting groceries for our Thanksgiving food baskets for our community. We usually prepare approximately 20 baskets every year!

Roscoe's Room @ JHS

This is a food pantry for Kinds that are need at school.



Items Needed:

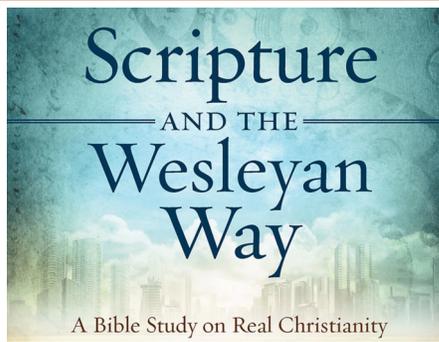
- Canned Goods (soup, SpaghettiOs, ravioli, fruits, vegetables)
- Peanut butter
- Granola bars
- Nuts
- Pretzels
- Cereal
- Crackers
- Trail mix
- Pop tarts
- Beef jerky/slim Jim's

Hygiene Items

- Toothbrushes/toothpaste/floss
- Body soap
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Deodorant
- Body spray
- Tampon/pads
- Hair brush/pony tail holders/ nail clippers
- Laundry detergent

October

- **October 2nd:**
1st Sunday of the month
Breakfast @ 8:30am
Discernment Discussions in
Roanoke @ 12:00pm
- **October 11th:** Finance
Committee Meeting @5pm
- **October 13th:** UMW Meeting
5pm (Group 3 provides meal)
- **October 16th:** Pumpkin
Carving/Decorating
4:00-5:30p.m.
- **October 23rd:** Youth trip to
CM Farms following worship.
Please contact Crystal for more
details.
- **October 24th:** Charge
Conference 7pm at JUMC
- **October 31st:** Trunk or Treat
5pm-7pm



The Bible was central to John Wesley's faith and the Christian movement he founded. In *Scripture and the Wesleyan Way*, you will discover a Wesleyan approach to the Bible and the Christian life through a Bible study using Wesley's own words.

In this study, authors Scott and Arthur Jones use John Wesley's sermons to illuminate the Bible passages at the heart of Wesley's understanding of what it means to be a real Christian. Each chapter explores a key Scripture text and one of Wesley's sermons on it. Through their insightful and engaging study, Bishop Jones and his son Arthur show how the teachings of Wesley address questions that many of us in the twenty-first century still struggle with today.

Chapters include:

1. What is the Bible's Message?
2. How Can I Be Saved?
3. A, I a Real Christian?
4. Do I Have to Obey the Law?
5. Am I a Sinner?
6. How Can I Connect with God?
7. Why is the Christian Life Not Easier?
8. What about My Money?

John Wesley discovered a challenging yet hopeful message in the Bible, which profoundly shaped his personal life and the Methodist movement he founded. As you study the Bible with John Wesley, you will hear his call to live a real Christian life and be inspired to respond to this call with faith and boldness. Come join the ladies' study on Wednesdays at 3:30.

St. Luke United Methodist Church is gearing up for another mission to Potrerillos, Honduras! Last year our Dean Sawyer and Richard McGregor joined this mission. The mission will include medical, children's VBS, dental, and construction teams again. We are hoping to add an eyeglass team this year.

The dates are Feb. 25-Mar. 4-11, 2023. You can go for one or both weeks. Are you interested? Please call or text Dean Sawyer at 337-274-9238 or email at dnlawsawyer24@gmail.com.



HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

1ST-DAN DONALD
2ND-COURNEY LEJEUNE
7TH-AUBREY CONNER
10TH-PENNY DONALD
10TH-HUNTER & HAYDEN HEBERT
11TH-VANCE LEJEUNE
20TH-DIANE MCGREGOR
28TH-KIMBERLY ROMERO

