



Latimer's Voice

The Newsletter of Latimer Memorial United Methodist

Publisher: Witness Team

Volume No. VIII

Issue No. 12

December 2019

Editor's Comments:

Please use my e-mail address to submit stories, events, happenings, or other information that you would like in the newsletter. If you do not have a computer, please give it to me in person or mail it to me. The deadline for all news items to be submitted is the 20th of each month. That will give me time to have it compiled and printed for distribution on the last Sunday of the month.

Susie Howell
Witness Team
susiehowell635@gmail.com
(864) 338-5469 - Home
(864) 221-2710 - Cell

Pastor's Ponderings:



“Celebrate Diversity”

When Ellisa and I travelled through Spain and Portugal, we saw amazing cathedrals, beautiful scenery and many other fascinating things. We enjoyed seeing the majestic mountains and the valleys full of fruit and olives. Things were different from the United States. This is why we travel---to see and experience differences. Spain and Portugal also have much longer histories than we have. We had much to learn.

The language was different; the people looked a little different; the houses on the outside looked different. The food, of course was different, and that made things interesting. It's always intriguing to experience different food. I never thought I would enjoy eating fried sardines or squid ink!

But many things were the same. Scrambled eggs, mixed salads, and

fresh fruit were the same (although I could not find any grits!). One day we were served a Spanish meal in a home. The food was different than a Southern meal, but in the home things were basically the same. The dining room, the kitchen, the bedroom reminded me of any American home. The family pictures were the same we would display. Just like those in the United States, the Spanish and Portuguese people care for their families, find value in their jobs, and find purpose in their faith.

In Galatians 3:28 Paul writes that in baptism we are neither Jew nor Greek. His intent was to emphasize that in the Christian faith we do not make distinctions based on ethnic or racial background. We celebrate the diversity of cultures and people but always remember that we are all God's children and that we should never be prejudiced

against those who are different.

As we go into this holiday season, let us celebrate the coming of our savior. Jesus, the baby in the manger, came to earth to bring peace to all and to all peoples.

- Rev. Wally Culp

From the Nurture Team:

“While Shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.”

“Get Ready”. John the Baptist Shouts!!!!

Events planned for December

November 30 – The Greening of the Church. 9am, All welcomed as we put up the Chrismon Tree, hang the wreathes and banners, prepare the Advent wreath. Wipe and wax the pews, Don't miss it! The King is coming! Bring a snack to share. It may sound like work, but actually is fun!!!!!!

December 1 – First Sunday in Advent – light the Advent Candle Wreath.

December 8 –Thanks to all who participate in gracing the sanctuary with the beautiful Poinsettias.

December 13 – Christmas Caroling on Belton Square at 4:30pm Everyone welcomed! Return to church after caroling for the Christmas Cantata and pageant practice.

December 15 – Our Choir will perform “Beautiful Star of Bethlehem“ Cantata and Children's Pageant during worship at 11am.

December 22 – Family Food and Fellowship Christmas program immediately following worship service. Something for all ages! Bring your favorite covered dish to share. Everyone is invited . We will have a Christmas party for all, singing carols and..... “Shhhhh, surprise!”

December 24 - Christmas Eve, 6 pm,

We will have carols, candles, readings, Communion and prayers.

A sign-up list for the monthly 2020 Fellowship meals will be on the desk in the Library. The church will provide the main meat for the meal. Contact Angela Pinson if you need assistance.

The January meal will be hosted by Kent and Linda Millwood.

A reminder that it's important to keep in touch with our home-bound. If you know of someone at home or hospital, who would like a visit, the church bulletin, Wally's Sunday Sermons, or a phone call. Please let Glenda Conley or Pastor Wally know.

We are still looking for more men and women to help in the nursery. Please consider this opportunity to serve and contact Regina Bullions.

Wishing all a Very Merry Christmas And a blessed 2020.

- Sandy Sorrow

From the Outreach Team:

We continue to assist the United Methodist Men prepare and serve "Brinner" to our Veterans at Richard Campbell. It is our pleasure to honor these heroes that served so we can live in a free country.

Grief Support did not meet in October. We did meet on November the 19th.

People that know that we support Patrick B. Harris Hospital donated several items(shoes, gently used clothing, empty cloth gift bags, cosmetic bags, tote bags and other items to be used as Bingo prizes) for us to donate to the hospital for the patients. They still are not accepting old Sunday School materials because they are still remodeling and do not have space for certain items.

Beginning this week we will be collecting money donations to be sent to Epworth to help with the purchase of Christmas gifts for the children and youth. Hopefully we can mail the check to

Epworth during the first week in December to give those that shop for the gifts time to do this before the last minute.

- Pat Wilson

From the Witness Team:

The Witness Team is still working on the new church cookbook. Many people have already submitted recipes. Susie will be contacting some of the people who have shown an interest in the cookbook to see if they want to submit some recipes.

We will be trying to schedule a meeting with the other two NOW committees to make plans for a fun time with the Bible School kids. We would like to have the children and youth complete the pictures for the new cookbook. We are hoping to be able to do something like this every quarter. We also need to be talking about our plans for Bible School next year.

Susie has contacted Travis Rogers about getting prices and a minimum order number for long sleeved church

t-shirts and baseball caps. He is going to get back to her with these numbers. He is estimating about \$15 for the shirts and \$15 for the caps.

Thanks go out to Ron, Gay, and Max Walfield and Ellisa Culp for being greeters, handing out the bulletins, and taking care of the Coffee Hour snacks and drinks before Sunday School and Worship Service.

Co-Chairs: Jane Barton
Susie Howell

The Liturgist's Schedule:

Dec. 1st - Ron Walfield
Dec. 8th - Kent Millwood
Dec. 15th - Linda Millwood
Dec. 22nd - Sandy Sorrow

Church Council:

The next Church Council meeting will be Tuesday, January 14th at 5:00 PM.

Anderson District Covenant Group:

The Anderson District Covenant Group will meet on Thursday, December 19th from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Offering Counters:

Dec. 1st - Ron Walfield
John Pinson
Dec. 8th - Ron Walfield
Kent Millwood
Dec. 15th - Ron Walfield
Jim DuBose
Dec. 22nd - Ron Walfield
Roy Mac
Haggard
Dec. 29th - Ron Walfield
Frank Sorrow

Treasurer's Report:

For the period of October 20 through November 20, tithes and offerings to Latimer for budget purposes were \$8,997.00. During that same period, expenditures were as follows: Pastor/Staff salaries and benefits - \$7,761.71, including direct billing; Sunday School/Upper Room - \$259.27; Office Expense - \$72.81; Pulpit replacement - \$50.00; Utilities - \$994.35. For a more detailed accounting, a copy of the complete accounting for the month is posted in the counting room.

- Linda Millwood



Choir Practice:

Choir Practice will be every Wednesday at 10:00 AM.

Bible Study:

Rev Culp will lead a five week Bible study during Advent. The study will be "Light of the World" by professor Amy-Jill Levine of Vanderbilt Divinity School. The study will continue on December 3rd, 10th, and 17th from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Ushers:

Dec. - Frank Sorrow
Max Walfield
Jan. - Frank Sorrow
Max Walfield

Our Homebound Members:

Phillip Brannon
Jackie Manning

Our Prayer Concerns:

Phillip Brannon, Ben Brogden, Juanita Butler, Family of Wendell Byrd, Bessie and Frank Clark, Katie Coward, Theresa Coward, Tim Culp, Gloria Eaves, Richard and Margaret Edwards, Tony Ellett, Linda Emhof, Dick and Nancy Finney, Jim Grubs, Family of Belle Hembree, Eugene Hembree, Jane Jackson, Amy and Jim Lane, Jackie and Jerry Manning, Sara McDowell, Mike Mock, Nancy Nagel, Racine Owings, Brenda Parfitt, Keith Ridgeway, Melissa Scott, Kandice Shirley, Lucretia and Joda Snipes, Norma Timms, Frank Woods, Carl and Ellen Yates,

The Latimer Lovelies:

The Latimer Lovelies will meet on Wednesday, December 11th at Noon at The Gray House in Iva. Please contact Susie Howell by Monday, December 9th if you plan to attend.

Latimer Memorial UMC Men's Club:

The Latimer Memorial UMC Men's Club will meet at 9:00 AM on Sunday, December 15th.

Prayer Breakfast:

The Prayer Breakfast is held on Tuesdays at 8:00 AM.

Grief Support Group:

The Grief Support Group will not meet in December.



Happy Birthday Colleen:

Colleen Pinson celebrated her 95th birthday on November 14th. The altar flowers on November 10th were given by her family in honor of her birthday. Her sisters and a niece were in attendance to help her celebrate.



All-Saints Day Remembrance:

On Sunday, November 17th, we celebrated All-Saints Day in remembrance of those in our congregation who have died this year. A large candle was lit in memory of Peggie Bromeling, JoAnn Pinson, Charles Campbell, Jane Woodson, Dot Peck, Ernie Emhof, and Barbara Emhof. The smaller candles were lit in memory of loved ones who passed before this year.

United Methodist Women:

There will be a Christmas Program followed by finger foods and fellowship. Members of the UMW are asked to bring finger foods to share.

At the November meeting Gloria Eaves presented the World

Thank Offering Program entitled "A Light for the World to See". This

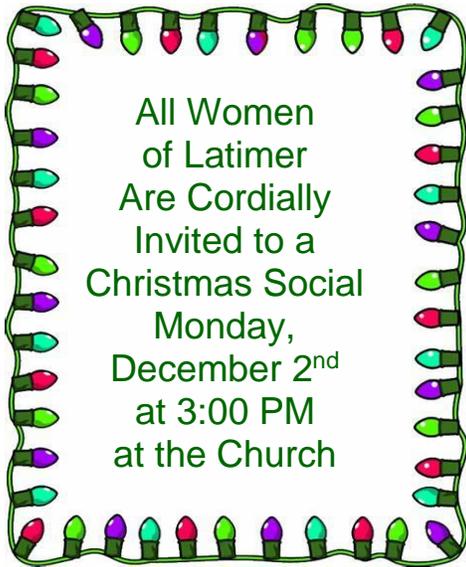
offering mission is based on personal giving but dependent on community (worldwide) giving to be successful. It began in 1881 at which time each woman was asked to give 2 cents per week or \$1.04 per year. From this beginning the offering grew to \$12,844,204.00 in 2018. This compares to a single light which could be rather dim but when multiplied by many could light up the world.

As a Christmas mission the UMW will give a \$50 Ingles gift card to each rental house family.

Hopefully some of you church women will feel free to accept the invitation above to the Christmas Social. It comes with no strings attached to become a UMW member.

A Merry and Blessed Christmas is wished to everyone.

- Regina Bullions



Nursery Workers:

Dec. 1st - Gloria
Judith
Dec. 8th - Andy
Susie
Dec. 15th - Regina
Nancy
Dec. 22nd - Gloria
Judith
Dec. 29th - Andy
Susie

Richard Campbell Nursing Home:

“Brinner” at Richard Campbell Nursing Home will be Wednesday, December 18th.

The Fellowship Meal:

The Family Food and Fellowship Meal for December will be Sunday, December 22nd.

Bishop’s Corner:

Never Too Late:

By Bishop L. Jonathan Holston

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another

*with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”—
Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV)*

The first Thanksgiving feast was recorded in 1621 between the Pilgrims, having recently arrived in America, and the Wampanoag, having already been residents here for many centuries.

In those early months, the Pilgrims might not have survived if the native people had not taught them the best local hunting, farming and harvest practices. Even though the relationship between the new settlers and the native people was tension-filled at best, it is said that the first feast was a traditional celebration of the plentiful harvest to which the Wampanoag were invited as an act of gratitude for the ways they had helped the Pilgrims acclimate to their new environment.



Special Appreciation:

On Sunday, November 10th, Max Walfield was presented with a lapel pin in appreciation of his service to our church. Max serves as acolyte, usher, and sometimes greeter on Sunday mornings.

The two groups joined together for these few days.

Yet we know that this temporary time of friendship and feasting did not last. Now, even as we prepare for traditional celebrations with family and friends, the complexity of our history must be acknowledged. While we are thankful, we need to remember that reconciliation is still needed.

Writer Matthew Rozsa asserts, “We shouldn’t forget things for which we are grateful often come at an ugly price.... By contrasting that initial thanksgiving with the ugliness that followed, we can be reminded of why it’s important to be mindful of similarly ugly impulses which exist today.”

We still witness remnants of the racism and colonialism that date back more than 400 years, and we are in danger of repeating those wrongs if we do not make an effort to live in the present while also remembering the past.

It has been said, “An apology is the superglue

of life. It can repair just about anything.” Even though it is difficult to swallow your pride and offer an apology when it is due, we can all make the effort to seek reconciliation.

As people of faith, we know that this effort is worthwhile. Paul emphasizes to the Colossians that the peace of Christ should rule in their hearts. In other words, make the effort to choose peace over other perspectives. Make peace and gratitude your priority.

So, even though it might be difficult, take time to be thankful. We cannot escape the past, but we can move toward a future that reflects the kingdom of God. Recognize the blessing that it is to serve God. Find joy in rolling up your sleeves and sacrificing for something greater than yourself. Share in mission that makes the world a better place.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of Jesus. Together, we will build tomorrows that are better than our yesterdays.

