



Latimer's Voice

The Newsletter of Latimer Memorial United Methodist Church

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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.

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A Word From Our Pastor:



I am writing this two days before Fall or Autumn.

Autumn is a beautiful time of year. It is a time when the leaves turn their myriad of colors. Some turn red, others golden brown, still others yellow. On sunny afternoons one can see the sun's rays glistening on the leaves.

Autumn is also a refreshing time of year. After the hot, sultry days of summer come the crisp, cool mornings and days when temperatures only reach the lower seventies.

Autumn is also the time of year when we gather in the harvest. All summer long those who have gardens have picked, prepared and eaten the vegetables that they have grown. Tomatoes, peppers, squash, okra, corn, and many other vegetables delight the palates of gardeners year after year. Gardeners must harvest all of their crops before the frosts and freezes come and ruin the vegetables. The

harvest must be gathered when it is ripe! In John 4:34-35 Jesus says, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."

There are many people today who may be receptive to the gospel. People are looking for meaning in their lives. Many have lost loved ones to COVID 19 and to other things such as car accidents, senseless murders, suicides and the list goes on. They are seeking comfort, peace and presence. They need someone to comfort them and be with them (presence). Ultimately, they need the comfort that only God can give and we can share that comfort with them.

The basic need of human beings is to feel and be loved, accepted, and valued. Jesus loves everyone, accepts everyone, and values everyone. Otherwise, He would never have died on the cross for us. He died to save us from our sins and give us eternal (spiritual) life. Just as Jesus loves, accepts and values everyone so are we Christians to do this as well! We are to lead them to Jesus who breaks the power of sin and bondage and gives the power to live above that.

Just as the vegetables in a garden ripen and the gardener gathers in the harvest so are we as Christians to gather in the harvest of souls that are ripe and ready to give their hearts to Jesus and live for Him. May God give us the eyes to see that the harvest field is ripe and ready to be harvested. It may be harvest time in God's time table!

- Pastor Dan

From the Nurture Team:

Just like family, we all pitch in and help each other whenever we can. We have much to be thankful for. The pictures are fresh in our minds of the hurricane losses and flooding in the South and East Coast. When the call goes out for UMCOR or Epworth Children's Home and others, the folks at Latimer always step up. There is always a need. May the Lord bless each gift and the giver.

Frank will be making 10 Flood buckets for UMCOR. If you would like to donate to the purchase of supplies, make your check to Latimer and indicate your gift is for the buckets. There is no exact time or date. The buckets will be assembled and shipped to the UMCOR warehouse and used as needed.

Our Annual Charge Conference will be October 20, 6PM, at Latimer Memorial. All are welcomed

We will be celebrating World Communion on October 3.

October 3 and 10, we will observe Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry.

October 17 we will celebrate Children's Sabbath and Laity Sunday during worship.

Upcoming dates to highlight:

November 7, Holy Communion and All Saints Sunday Observed

Our church council discussed continuing to monitor the Covid-19 protocols we have implemented. We encourage getting the vaccine, your choice to use a face mask or not, continue social distancing, and using Hand sanitizer.

Keep in prayer for our members, friends and families. Glenda Conley and Gay Walfield continue to mail the weekly Bulletins and Pastor's sermons and monthly Newsletters to our homebound members. We still post Bishop Holston's daily prayer on our Facebook

page. If you know someone who would like to receive church information, or would like a visit from Pastor Dan, please let the office know.

“Time is not measured by the years that you live, but by the deeds that you do and the joy that you give.”

- Helen Steiner Rice

- Sandy Sorrow

From the Outreach Team:

A Prayer

Teach me, O Spirit of God,
The silent language which says all things.
Teach my soul to remain silent
In Your presence.
That I may adore You in the depths of my being
And await all things from You,
Asking nothing of You
But the accomplishment of Your will.

- John Nicholas

It is hard to believe that it is time for the October Newsletter, I have already seen pumpkins

For sale (both the real ones and ceramic ones).

Latimer has always been a church that reached out to help others and look out for those in need. I know we have had several projects recently, but I think the one this month is important and deserving of our help no matter how little or how much you can give. No gift is ever too small.

Our outreach project this month is to give to the Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry. Your help makes it possible for the care of adults with developmental disabilities in Christian homes. As always please keep this ministry and the residents of the three homes in your prayers.

Please make your check out to Latimer and make a note on your check and the envelope that the donation is for Aldersgate. Thank you for your support.

Our call comes from Isaiah 32:18, “My people will live in peaceful

dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.”

- Pat Wilson

From the Witness Team:

We had a very busy summer up north doing “Daddy to due” lists from Michelle and Mike. It is so good to be back home.

I would like to thank Susie for taking over the duties of chairperson during my absence. She does an amazing job with the newsletter and anything else she is asked to do.

Thank you also to Gay and Glenda for their dedication in mailing out Newsletters and other items to those who don't have email addresses.

We have submitted our end of year report to charge conference.

We were in hopes of starting to do quarterly activities with the children but due to COVID that is still on hold. Since most of the Witness Team has been vaccinated, we are

waiting for the ok from the COVID protocol team to resume the following activities, serve as greeters and furnishing refreshments before church.

We are still busy updating the church directory.

Our goal for the future is to get information to those in the congregation that are interested in becoming Lay speakers or Lay servants.

I would like to share words from the hymn I Know Who Holds Tomorrow:

I don't know who about tomorrow, I just live from day to day

I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to gray

I don't worry over the future, for I know what Jesus said

And today I walk beside him, for He knows what is ahead

Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand

But I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand.

- Jane Barton

Church Council:

The next Church Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9th at 4:30 PM.

Ushers:

Frank Sorrow
Max Walfield

Acolytes:

Max Walfield
Alana Walfield

Liturgist's Schedule:

Oct. 3rd – Ron Walfield
Oct. 10th – Kent Millwood
Oct. 17th – Sandy Sorrow
Oct. 24th – Linda Millwood
Oct. 31st – Ron Walfield

Treasurer's Report:

As of September 21, 2021, the balance of the General account was \$32,280.62, of which \$4,447.88 is escrow. The housing allowance balance is \$971.91. Deposits continue to be made to this account from the Martha Manry endowment.

A detailed report of both the General account and apportionments will be posted in the Team room around the first of October.

Although, we are closer, have not yet returned to "normal". Our members have continued to support the church not only spiritually and emotionally but also financially without interruption. A big thank you is due them.

- Tommy Howell



We are adding a new section to our Newsletter called The Poetry Corner. We are trying to encourage our folks to submit poems, articles, stories, drawings, or anything creative to the Witness Team for the Newsletter. This includes our kids too. Please give your poems, articles, etc. to Susie or Jane. Everyone knows our resident poet is Billie Jo Campbell. I am so pleased that she submitted one of her

poems to become our first participant.

DO NOT WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW

"We're told not to worry about tomorrow,

nor for things that lie ahead.

But to pray for strength and courage,

and to put our Trust in God instead.

There's no need to worry about tomorrow when God is by our side;

He will give us strength and courage

and will always be our guide."

- Billie Jo Campbell

Trustees' Report:

The Trustees have completed a list of repairs that need attention. The list has not been prioritized at this point. Janitorial fees of \$325.00 and donation to BIMA of \$100.00 are paid monthly out of the Trustee Account. Insurance premiums on the church are paid

quarterly and are approximately \$1,500.00 each quarter. The balance in the Trustee Account as of September 1, 2021 is \$65,745.72.

- Gloria Eaves

Our Homebound:

Jackie Manning
Jerry Manning
Frank Clark
Bessie Clark



Our Prayer Concerns:

Ben Brogden, Marty Brooks' mother and brother, Hilda Bruce, Juanita Butler, Scott Campbell, Kendall Chandler, Bessie and Frank Clark, Katie Coward, Theresa Coward, Rev. Tommy Edwards, Eric Emhof, Linda Emhof, Dick Finney, Cory Foubert, Jim Grubbs, Betty Hill, Jane Jackson, Amy and Jim Lane, Susan Long, Jackie and Jerry and Jackie Manning, Sara McDowell, Nancy Nagel,

Outz Family, Brenda Parfitt, Colleen Pinson, Bobby Poore, Cy Roberts, Melissa Scott, Norma Timms, Alan Walfield, Frank Williams, Frank Woods, Marvin Woodson, Carl and Ellen Yates

Dan's Schedule:

Dan's will have office hours Monday through Thursday from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM. This may vary from week to week depending on what is going on in the church.

Charge Conference:

The 2021 Charge Conference will be held on October 20th at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary.

United Methodist Women:

The United Methodist Women met Monday, September 13, 2021 at 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sandy Sorrow presented a program titled "Generous Hearts and Strong Threads". Sandy tied the program to Grandparents' Day. Members brought pictures of their grandparents and

remembered the times they spent with their grandparents. Many precious memories were shared. Sandy also handed out information from Caring Across Generations Operative Director, Mae Singerman.

The United Methodist Women will hold its Pledge Service in October and its World Thank Offering in November. We meet the first Monday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 3:00 pm. Come join us!!!!

- Gloria Eaves

United Methodist Men:

The UMMC will meet on Sunday, October 17th at 9:30 AM for their breakfast and lesson.

Latimer Lovelies:

The Latimer Lovelies will meet at The Village Bakery and Café in Pendleton for lunch at noon on Wednesday, October 13th. Please let Jane Barton know if you plan to attend by Monday, October 11th so she can give the restaurant a head count.

New Address:

Colleen Pinson's new address is:

Mountain Top
Independent Living
450 Mountain Top Drive
#105
Asheboro, NC 27203
(336) 736-8151.

Bishop's Corner:

Taking the Lead

By Bishop L. Jonathan Holston
"God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love."
Ephesians 4:15-16 (The Message)

At the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, midshipmen must keep their rooms ready for inspection at any time and keep their uniforms in regulation condition. Demerits can be given for a room or uniform

that is not in proper order.

One of the first routines of every day is formation for inspection. For my son, Karlton's, first inspection experience, he wanted everything to be perfect. He was up early. His rack was made. His clothes were pressed. His shoes were polished so bright he was able to double-check his shave just by looking down!

He was in line. He hadn't missed a single item. He stood perfectly at attention as the inspection was made. Karlton was confident the detailer would stop, look and he would hear the words, "Very good, plebe!"

The moment came. The detailer came face to face with this tall, well prepared young man. There was a moment of silence as the detailer took in Karlton's presence. Karlton didn't blink. He stood perfectly still. The detailer finally spoke.

"What's your name, plebe?"

"Holston, sir!"

“Well Holston, you just earned yourself three demerits.”

Karlton was dumbfounded! He was given three demerits first thing on his first day!

Why? I’ll tell you why. Because the shoes of his roommate weren’t as brightly polished as his own.

Karlton embraced a valuable truth that day—to truly be at your best, you must also help others be their best.

One of the highest values taught in the Navy is caring for each other, looking after each other, working together. They know just taking care of oneself is not the path to maximum excellence. They needed Karlton to help others because the day would come when he would need the others to help him. This is a culture of shared support, accountability and reliance.

And so, it is for the body of Christ. Paul writes that Christ keeps us in step with one another as we grow and mature in faith. We are not called to make the journey of faith

alone, but rather to bring our brothers and sisters in Christ with us. God promises to provide what we need and to lead us in the right direction; all we have to do is trust and follow.

We know what is happening around us. We are here. We are not beginning again; we are continuing on. The pandemic is not over – instead it is doubling down. In the midst, how can we be the people God calls us to be?

How can we be the church where we are? How can we best protect each other and be our brothers’ and sisters’ keeper? How do we move forward together?

Richard Bolles, in the timeless leadership book, “What Color Is Your Parachute?”, describes our discerning times in this way, namely,

“It is a strange world we live in, these days. Old rules are being rewritten. Things are changing that we never thought would change. Events are happening that we thought we would never see. Things we take for

granted now are vanishing. Things don’t work the way they used to.

And here we are, trying to plot a new course for our life, still needing help with the essential questions of our existence: Where do we go from here with our lives?

We may have a life that is unfolding just as we have hoped. Or our lives may have turned into a nightmare, and we have no idea how we’re going to get out of our present predicament, but so long as we have hope, we’ll be all right. The one thing we must not be is hopeless.”

So, it must be hope that we seek above and before all else. The only question is, how do we find hope?

Hope is not an elusive pipe dream. Hope is available here and now, regardless of our circumstances. All we have to do is adjust our focus and perspective. Hope depends upon us. As we take our next faithful steps, hope depends on us developing leaders,

engaging our communities, connecting with and growing disciples, and measuring and evaluating current realities and missional possibilities.

Being on the cutting edge of ministry and hope and living at the edge of the unknown is the key to progress. And if we're unsure, don't worry; that's a good thing.

Why? Because when we recognize we cannot make it on our own, and that we are desperately in need of the Savior. It is in those moments when we learn to fully rely on Jesus Christ.

This is a time for learning, growing and shifting out of our old patterns.

May we be at our best by helping others be at their best, focusing on hope and trusting God to lead us.

Let us seek a more excellent way as we take the next faithful steps together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.