



The Latimer's Voice

The Newsletter of Latimer Memorial United Methodist

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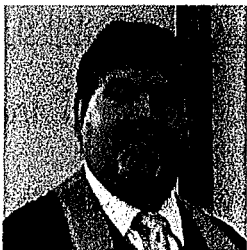
November 2019

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.

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Pastor's Ponderings:



Pastor Wally will not be pondering in November. He and Ellisa will be vacationing across the pond.

From the Nurture Team:

"Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy one, give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son."

During our Charge Conference, the District Lay Leader Jeff Fogle spoke to us about his purpose and vision – reminding us all that "We are a community of God's people in a sacred journey together." A good thing to remember as we continue forward.

Thank you to the church committees, who help each other and seek ways to spread the love of Christ to all.

All Saints Sunday and Holy Communion will be observed on November 17. We will remember those who have passed on, especially this year – Peggy Bromeling, JoAnn Pinson, Charles Campbell, Jane Woodson, Dot Peck, Ernie Emhof and Barbara Emhof.

Keep their families and friends in your prayers.

Our Children's Sabbath in October was celebrated. Alana Walfield played the piano and Max Walfield played his Cello. Payton Burleson was the Acolyte. It's good to have our children serve during worship. We had a Children's Sabbath litany in the bulletin, lifting up the concerns and sacred worth of every child world over.

Food and Fellowship meal will be November 24. Frank and Sandy Sorrow will host and provide the meal.

Thanks to all the servants during the year in helping with these meals. They are greatly appreciated. For some it is more than just food. The fellowship and the opportunity to serve one another is equally important. Maybe even more so.

Thanksgiving is November 28.

Greening of the church is Saturday November 30 at 9am. Come set up the trees and wreaths, getting

ready for the Christmas season.

Sunday, December 1 is the first Sunday in Advent.

We will have Red Poinsettias again this year in memory and honor of loved ones. The order form will be on the table with Sunday Bulletins.

Next Nurture team meeting is November 12 at 4pm. (A change in date and time)

- Sandy Sorrow

From the Outreach Team:

Members of the NOW teams, the Latimer Memorial United Methodist Men, and a few others met at Richard Campbell Veteran's Home to prepare and serve "Brinner" to the Veterans. We served fifty or more. They are always so grateful for this time of food and fellowship. We are grateful to this for serving our country and protecting us.

Grief Support did not meet in October. We will meet in November. Lunch will be served. Come join us.

In December we as a church will be collecting money to send to Epworth Children's home to help

make Christmas special for the children.

- Pat Wilson

From the Witness Team:

We continue to work on the new cookbook.

We are still investigating the costs of long-sleeved church t-shirts and hats.

We are looking forward to David and Jane returning from New Hampshire.

- Susie Howell

The Liturgist's Schedule:

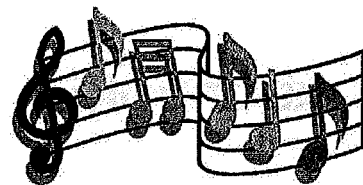
Nov. 3rd - Ron Walfield
Nov. 10th - Kent Millwood
Nov. 17th - Linda Millwood
Nov. 24th - Sandy Sorrow

Church Council:

The next Church Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 12th at 5:00 PM.

Offering Counters:

Nov. 3rd - Ron Walfield
John Pinson
Nov. 10th - Ron Walfield
Kent Millwood
Nov. 17th - Ron Walfield
Jim DuBose
Nov. 24th - Ron Walfield
Roy Mac
Haggard



Musical Notes:

During the month of November, we typically think of Thanksgiving and being thankful. I have been flipping through the hymn books looking at various hymns like We Gather Together, Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing, and Come, Ye Thankful People, Come to use during our services in November. In all reality, these hymns should be used more frequently in our services because we should always be thankful and grateful to our Lord and Savior for the many blessings that he pours out on us. I will try to incorporate these into our weekly services so we don't just think of them as Thanksgiving hymns.

Also, I would like to take a moment to say a big **THANK YOU** to each and every member of the choir. They are a wonderful group of individuals to work with and are always so supportive. Music is such a wonderful part of each worship service and the choir always goes that extra mile to make it great. **THANK YOU** again

choir for your faithfulness and hard work!



Lastly, as we approach the Christmas season (I know it seems unbelievable that it is almost here.) I would like to extend an invitation to anyone interested in participating in the Christmas Cantata, to let me know as soon as possible. We are going to start practicing very soon. Our cantata is titled

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem. It is a beautiful collection of Christmas songs. Come out and join us as we practice.

- Misty Walfield

Choir Practice:

Choir practice will be held every Wednesday at 10:00 AM.

Ushers:

Nov. - Frank Sorrow
Max Walfield
Dec. - Frank Sorrow
Max Walfield

Grief Support Group:

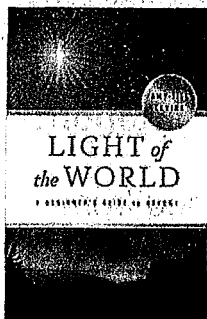
The Grief Support Group will meet at Noon on Tuesday, November 19th. Lunch will be served.



Fellowship Meal

Food and Fellowship Time:

Our Food and Fellowship Meal will be Sunday, November 24th and hosted by Frank and Sandy Sorrow.



Bible Study:

The first day of our 5 week Bible study, "Light of the World" by Amy-Jill Levin will be Tuesday, November 19th at 10:00 AM. The second week will be Tuesday, November 26th at 10:00 AM.

Our Homebound:

Phillip Brannon
Jackie Manning



The Latimer Lovelies:

The Latimer Lovelies will meet at Sullivan's on Wednesday, November 13th, at Noon.

Our Prayer Concerns:

Phillip Brannon, Ben Brogden, Juanita Butler, Bessie and Frank Clark, Katie Coward, Tim Culp, Gloria Eaves, Richard and Margaret Edwards, Tony Ellett, Linda Emhof, Dick and Nancy Finney, Jim Grubbs, Belle and Eugene Hembree, Jane Jackson, Amy and Jim Lane, Jackie Manning, 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

Prayer Breakfast:

The Prayer Breakfast will be every Tuesday at 8:00 AM.

Latimer Memorial UMC Men's Club:

The UMC Men's Club breakfast and meeting will be Sunday, November 17th at 9:00 AM.

United Methodist Women:

Gloria Eaves presented the annual pledge service as the October program. She emphasized the strength in numbers of all the UMW members which enables the many global works of mission. We are more aware of our local and state missions which we support, but the program reminded us of all the world missions that we also support through our pledge to missions. During the year we support 5 mission projects of the SC UMW with a special emphasis each month. As a result of that our unit has received a special recognition certificate along with being a Diamond Unit, a Mission Today Unit and a 5 Star Unit for 2019. Coleen Pinson, Billy Jo Campbell and Pat Wilson also were given their certificates for completing the reading program. The Oct. mission emphasis is the Bethlehem Center - Spartanburg. The

next meeting will be the World Thank Offering Program on November 4.

- Regina Bullions

Children's Sabbath:



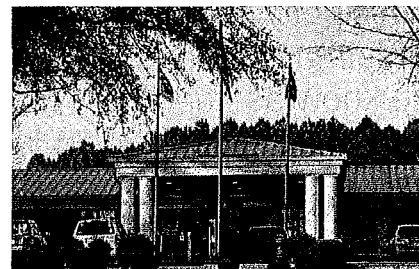
Treasurer's Report:

For the period from September 15 to October 19, Latimer's tithes and offerings totaled \$8,015.00. Also during that period, the following expenditures were made: Ministerial costs, including benefits - \$4,516.52; Staff expenses, including taxes - \$416.23; Fellowship Meals - \$69.98; Utilities - \$847.88; Direct Billing - \$1,778.00; Sunday School (materials) - \$211.45; Children (Bibles and Safe Sanctuary training) - \$141.05; SC Conference Treasurer (special offerings) - \$900.00. For an item by item listing, please see the report posted in the counting office.

- Linda Millwood

Nursery Workers:

Nov. 3rd - Regina Bullions
Nancy Ellett
Nov. 10th - Gloria Eaves
Judith DuBose
Nov. 17th - Andy Bullions
Susie Howell
Nov. 24th - Regina Bullions
Nancy Ellett



Richard Campbell Nursing Home:

"Brinner" at Richard C. Campbell Nursing Home will be Wednesday, November 20th.

Bishop's Corner:

Nothing Could Be Plainer:

By Bishop L. Jonathan Holston

"Peter fairly exploded with his good news: 'It's God's own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ

everything is being put together again—well, he's doing it everywhere, among everyone.”—Acts 10:34-36 (The Message)

Marie Curie said it this way: “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more so that we may fear less.”

Some of the most frustrating times in life come when we desperately need understanding and we cannot find it. Think about it this way. What happens when you are in a serious disagreement with someone or some group on some issue of concern? You find yourself rehearsing speeches in your head. You play out different scenarios in your mind and think of clever things to say. One of the reasons we do this is the need for people to understand our point of view.

Another aspect of life I have come to understand is the realization that racism is not an individual issue. It is a communal problem. Activist Amanda Barclay describes the struggle of talking about racism as “trying to explain how to breathe to another human when one is already breathing. What (do you) say that will trigger that

‘Aha’ moment, bringing others into awareness?”

So, the question becomes—why is it so uncomfortable to talk about racism?

I believe that this is a conversation we fear on all sides. It is difficult to talk about racism because we are most comfortable talking to only the people we want to talk to, those with whom we can instantly find commonality. That great writer named “anonymous” once said, “We are faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.”

We are “fix-it” people, but there is not a quick fix for racial reconciliation. In order to address the issues of concern, we have to deepen our spiritual understanding as well. As we grow in deepening our faith, it allows us to deal with the fragility of our own existence. When the issues seem too overwhelming, and we wonder what we can do about it anyway, we must begin with our own sense of faith.

Prior to serving in South Carolina, I was appointed to pastor a predominantly white congregation in an affluent Atlanta

neighborhood. It was while here that I traveled with the youth to Lake Junaluska for their confirmation retreat. On the way home, we stopped at a restaurant. Our waiter studied the group, instantly recognizing that I did not look like the others. It was then that the question was asked, “Are you the bus driver?” I responded that no, I was actually the pastor. The waiter was embarrassed, but his generalization prompted further discussion at our table.

The youth were surprised to learn I had to deal with such judgments and assumptions. Witnessing my experience taught them the importance of making an effort to get to know others rather than simply assuming that you know their circumstances.

I believe that God has not given up on us even though we may have given up on each other. The question is how do we have “inclusive dialogue” when others are in the room?

Professor and author Dr. Robin DiAngelo points out that there are many who have never personally experienced what it is like to be instantly judged, questioned or seen as being less than because of

the color of their skin. Most can never fully understand what it is like to live through that in any measure day in and day out. This "race-based stress" takes a physical, mental and emotional toll, and that uncomfortable reality is an important acknowledgement on the road to reconciliation. And so, we listen.

So, I offer a path to possible dialogue. First, be real. Listen with authenticity to the stories that need to be shared. Second, speak with integrity about what truly matters. Third, be innovative. Act with intentionality to hear the truth of history and heritage from all sides of the discussion.

To make space for this dialogue it is necessary to show up. Serving together, working together side by side toward a common goal is the most natural way to identify our commonalities and differences. Through our shared interests and mission, we can continue to tear down the walls built on the color of one's skin rather than the content of our character. It is an uncomfortable journey, but as people of faith we trust that it will lead us to God's own truth.