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OCTOBER 2019

The Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF ST. MATTHIAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

So What is Your Bible?

Pastor Bert, pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org

I've been thinking about the Bible a lot lately.

Years ago, when I started to take my relationship with God more seriously, I heard a song by Amy Grant that started to get stuck in my head a lot. She borrowed from Psalm 119:105 in proclaiming, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path." Perhaps you know this. It is in our United Methodist Hymnal and it is on the play list for many contemporary Christian music lovers from the 80s and 90s.

The song confesses a truth that we need to know and be reminded of from time to time. The truth is that the scriptures are a guide for us when we've lost our way. It is a story, a really beautiful and complicated story, of God's creative care and extravagant compassion for us as we are finding our way forward.

More than mere history, and resistant to simple answers, the bible is a means for us to know what God has been up to and what God is continuing to say and do today. The Bible is not God, but it is a means for the Holy Spirit to speak to us and move with us and through us toward God's 'kingdom come'.

So, as your pastor, I want to encourage you to pick up the book. Throughout the rest of the month, we will continue and finish our study of the Book of Acts. I have found this to be challenging and insightful as we live a community of faith.

In November, we'll switch gears and move to the Gospel of Mark, and then move into Advent. Can you believe how quickly this is happening!?!? In January, I'll begin a series on reading and studying the Bible. Some of you will embark on something cool called the 90 day challenge (look for more on this). Are you ready for the 90?

Do you remember the Capital One advertisement campaign that would ask, "So what's in your wallet?" It was kind of a personal question but it was effective. So, if I may be so bold to ask, "So what's in your Bible?" I was hoping that you would tell me about how you read the scriptures. Where do you read it; a bound leather book or from your tablet or phone? What is the translation? Do you have a favorite translation (e.g., New International Version, Common English Bible, etc.), or do you not really know what that translation stuff even means? Simply drop me a note at pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org or leave me a message at the office.

So, to get started, let me tell you that I have two Bible go-tos. One is a beat up brown copy of the Common English Bible for Daily prayer that I carry in my bag. The other is my YouVersion Bible app on my phone/tablet/computer, which is available in many translations for free at youversion.com. I use other resources, but these are at my fingertips.

I look forward to hearing from you on this. I'll compile a list and share some general impressions in a few weeks.

I am looking forward to spending the fall with you and praying for our very best with God as our guide.

VISIT US ONLINE: WWW.STMATTHIASUMC.ORG

CHARGE CONFERENCE

CHARGE CONFERENCE @ 4pm, October 6

Annually, the charge conference meets with the district superintendent, clergy, leaders, and members of local congregations. The SPRC prepares and recommends pastoral compensation and recommends candidates for ordained ministry; finance prepares the budget; nominations prepares recommendations of leaders; ministry leaders prepare ministry plans; the lay leader and the council work with the pastor to complete the church conference reports. Additional teaching focuses on missional and ministry tools and the connection to the broader church. The charge conference is the basic governing body of each United Methodist local church and is composed of all members of the church council.

SERVICE FOR DICK MOORE

Service for Dick Moore

St. Matthias will hold a Memorial Service for Dick Moore on **Saturday, 12 October 2019, at 11 a.m.** in the sanctuary. A potluck reception will follow in the social hall. Please continue to pray for Diane, their family and friends.

WOMEN'S EVENT

LADIES: Reminder to let Mary Ella Fuquay know of your interest in attending the Aspire Women's Event on Friday evening, **Oct. 25, 7:00 p.m.** See info on bulletin board for details.

WORSHIP LEADERS

St. Matthias would like to add a few more people to our team of Worship Leaders. If you are interested, a training will take place in the near future. The date is to be determined. If you should have any questions, please contact the church office, 540-373-8759.

NC MISSION TRIP

Mission Trip to Newport, NC ~ Oct. 27 – Nov. 2

The cost: \$90.00 per person (\$60.00 food/\$30.00 insurance). Trip meeting is **13 October @ 12:30 p.m.** Forms and money will be due at that time. If you are interested, forms are available in the church office. For questions, please contact Peg Jones, (C) 540-903-6321 or pegjonesva@gmail.com.

LOVE & LAUNDRY

Love & Laundry was held on Thursday, Sept. 19, and was a very successful event! We served 9 very grateful patrons, and spent every quarter we had with us: \$171.50! Thank you, St. Matthias family, for your continued support of this ministry. By changing our days and times each month, we have been able to surprise and bless a whole new group of patrons; we are blessed as much as the recipients of free laundry service! We get to pray with those in need of that, and we have distributed many items of spiritual messages, small Bibles, gifts for the kids, and information about St. Matthias and its services.

Our October Love & Laundry event will be on Friday, Oct. 11, from 1 to 5 p.m., and we would love to have your help! If you can spend an hour or two with us, please sign up for a time slot on the main bulletin board. Every helping hand will be greatly appreciated! **POC:** Mary Ella Fuquay

HOLY CONVERSATION ABOUT FINANCE

A Holy Conversation about Finance will be held Sunday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Bert and members of the finance committee will be there to answer questions and lead a holy conversation about church finances. This event is open to anyone and will be held at St. Matthias in the fellowship hall. **POC:** Susan Courtney, 373-8759.

YOUTH FUN LAND TRIP

The youth will be taking a field trip to Fun Land in Fredericksburg Oct. 13 @ 1:00 p.m.
POC: Erin Wetzel

UMW ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR AND YARD SALE

UMW'S Annual Craft sale and yard sale is coming on **Saturday, October 19, from 8 am – 2 pm!** Home and holiday décor and crafts, silent auction, baked goods, and a big yard sale will once again have St. Matthias full of fun and fellowship! Come and spend the day; purchase your lunch and enjoy the chance to visit with friends you might not get to see very often!

Please start setting aside your yard sale items ("One man's trash is..."), and bring them into the church for pricing beginning on **Sunday, October 13** (they can be put in the former pre-school room, at the end of the classroom hall, next to the nursery).

Start getting out those favorite baked goods recipes, and bring your baked goods to the church for the sale on Friday, Oct. 18, from 5 till 7 p.m. You'll also have a chance to do preview sales of crafts and baked goods at that time!

Anyone wishing to help with set-up of the craft sale or pricing for the yard sale please come to the Social Hall starting at 10 am on Thursday, Oct. 17. The women appreciate all the helping hands they can get!

All proceeds from the sales go to missions of women and children.

FINANCE

Through August, we are 66.7% through the year and have spent 48.2% of our approved operating budget of \$333,098.

Revenues totaled \$190,266.14 in unrestricted weekly and online giving. Expenses totaled \$199,290.60, leaving a net loss of \$9,024.46. The increase in net loss is due to an additional payroll posting which should have posted at the end of July but carried over to August due to the payroll period ending on a weekend.

The August bank statement reflects a beginning balance of \$50,943.32 and an ending balance of \$40,094.73. This included \$27,569.25 in deposits and \$38,417.84 in cleared checks. There was a total of \$6,645.54 in uncleared checks for a QuickBooks register balance of \$33,449.19. As of September 7, monies earmarked for various Special Designated Accounts totaled \$19,549.87.

Through September 7th, the Board of Trustees have a total of \$127,074.38 in various CDs, money market and checking accounts, including \$9,944.25 for the rental of the church parsonage.

The next monthly meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of the month, October 9 at 7pm in room 10.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Sandy Rawlins at 540 840-3776.



Rebuilding Together Project

A group of volunteers from St. Matthias recently rebuilt the porch rails for a home in the Grafton Village neighborhood.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



KICK-ff WAS GREAT!!

We had about 12 kids attend, we had bunches of GREAT food, and were able to tube the river twice. Tons of fun was had by all!!

Church Garden Weeding (Service Project) - 8/25/19

We spent our meeting time cleaning the flower beds around the property. They did a GREAT job! It was amazing to see how eager they were to help.




**Trunk or Treat
Harvest Festival**
 Sunday, Oct. 27
 4:30 - 7:00 PM
 Trunk or treat, pumpkin patch, bounce house,
 games, prizes, and lots of food!




Parent Meeting on 9/15 was the most successful parent meeting in years!! We had many Parents of my kids who don't attend church to show up and support the group!

I had many parents want to get involved and signed up for specific tasks/events. I was also able to get feedback on topics they would like me to approach with their students. ALSO, got lots of thank you's for ST. MATTHIAS UMC SUPPORTING THEIR KIDS:)

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators 7:00 WBB	2 9:00 a.m. "This Week" with Pastor Bert 10:00 a.m. UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 Girl Scouts	3 6:00 p.m. UR 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Trustees	4	5 7:00 PLAM Girl Scout Service Unit Event
6 4:00 p.m. Charge Conference @ St. Matthias 5:00 Praise Band 5:45 Evening Worship 6:30 p.m. UMYF	7 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer	8 7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators 7:00 WBB	9 9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 a.m. UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Finance	10 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Worship	11 1-5:00 p.m. Love & Laundry	12 7:00 PLAM 11:00 a.m. Dick Moore's Memorial Service
13 12:30 p.m. NC Mission Trip Mtg. 1:00 UMYF Trip to Fun Land 5:00 Praise Band	14 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer	15 7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators 7:00 WBB	16 9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 a.m. UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts	17 Craft Fair Set-Up 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Admin Council	18 Craft Fair Set-Up 5-7:00 p.m. Craft Show Preview	19 7:00 a.m. PLAM 8-1:00 p.m. Craft Fair
20 7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast 9:45 Third Sunday Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Praise Band 5:45 Evening Worship 6:30 Youth Group 7:00 Holy Conversation about Finance	21 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer	22 7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators 7:00 WBB	23 9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 a.m. UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts	24 6:00 p.m. UR 7:00 Al Anon	25 Aspire Women's Event @ Salem Baptist Church	26 7:00 a.m. PLAM
Newport, NC Rebuilding Mission Trip						
27 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat Harvest Festival	28 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer	29 7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators 7:00 WBB	30 9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 a.m. UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 Girl Scouts	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN 6:00 p.m. UR 7:00 Al Anon		

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4	Donna Jenkins
6	Bob Powers
6	Darlene Shelton
8	Erica Murray
9	Eric Hartman
9	Linda Monaghan
9	Mike Murray
10	Robert Anderson
14	Caleb Rippey
20	Cynthia Gallant
20	Linda Pettit
23	Brian Harkless
23	Rodney Hubbard
24	Margaret Morgan
27	Debbie Whittington
28	Michaela Moore
29	Linda Donalson
29	Ashton Toombs
30	J.R. Dusenberry
30	Derek Rucker
30	Ryder Rucker
30	Summer Grace Rucker

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

5	Walt & Kathy Smith
5	Susan & Dale Courtney
9	Gregg & Teresa Orto
14	Brad & Jolene Rippey
14	David & Rosa Hogue
18	John & Lois Nedza
19	Sean & Jennifer Belako
21	Bob & Susan Gmitter
24	David & Christie Conrad
25	Geoffrey & Brittany Morris
26	Derrick & Sue Hoiska
28	Thomas & Michaela Moore

Coming Up in November

Women's Walk to Emmaus (11/7- 9), Operation Christmas Child Box Pick Up (11/10), Veteran's Day (11/11), Finance Committee Meeting (11/13), Worship Committee Meeting (11/14), Messy Church Event @ St. Matthias (11/15), Operation Christmas Child Box Collection (11/17), Holy Conversation with Pastor Bert (11/17), Messy Church Planning Meeting (11/18), Admin Council Meeting (11/21), Thurman Brisben (11/24), Thanksgiving (11/28), Office Closed (11/26-27), Hanging of the Greens (11/30)



Debbie Whittington's new address:

9919 Rock Haven Lane
Mountainburg, AR 72946

St. Matthias United Methodist Church

426 Deacon Road

Fredericksburg, VA 22405



St. Matthias United Methodist Church

Called to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

Worship:

Sundays: 8:45 & 11:00 | Nursery for infants to 5 yrs

Kids Own Worship (pre -5th grade): 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship: 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 5:45 p.m.

Pastor:

Rev. Bert Cloud

540-373-8759 (option 2) | pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org

Office:

Mrs. Susan Courtney

(540) 373-8759 | office@stmatthiasumc.org

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Find us:

Visit us online at stmatthiasumc.org and on facebook

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