



The Wesley Message

Our Mission is to Love God and Our Neighbors

Volume 37, Number 6

05/29/2019

The Rev. Clair Sauer, Pastor

From the Pastor

Our God is So Big!

A few weeks ago, I was hanging with some fellow clergy and a few lay people involved in various United Methodist Churches around the Chattanooga District. There was a wide range of ages represented, as well as a diversity of backgrounds. As we talked, one of the people present, who calls herself "unchurched," asked the question, "If God is 'Father,' then who is 'Mother'?"

All together, every pastor in the room said, "God!"

Now, this is just one example, but it is very revealing of our modern attitudes and views towards God. To put it quite simply, we define God according to our own (very limited) worldview. It is truly amazing, and terribly saddening to me to think how many disagreements among Christians stem from our own misguided perceptions of who God is and what God is about. We have forgotten that there is only one true God. We have lost touch with the simple fact that this same God is the creator of ALL things (yes, that means all people, too). We take for granted that God wants so terribly much to be in relationship with EACH of us, that God sent Jesus Christ to die on a cross so that WE can live eternally in God's presence!

We should be united by this fact, our shared identity as people claimed and pursued by God's love. But instead we get caught up in these awful fights about our differences. And we say things like, "God wouldn't want it THAT way!" And "God could never love somebody who would do THAT!"

Now, such statements may or may not be true, but the point is, we don't know! God is SO MUCH BIGGER than we can ever think or imagine! God is at work in the world in ways that are far beyond our comprehension, and beyond even the abilities of human reason. God is bigger than our politics. God is bigger than our denominations. God is bigger than our disagreements. God is bigger than our morals and ethics. We have no idea how God feels about other people, any more than we know how God feels about us. All that we can know is that God loves God's entire creation, and we are called to live in that same love.

So, next time you think you know what God is up to, stop. Lift up a prayer of thanksgiving for the God who is so much bigger and so much better than we can imagine, and then share a little of God's love with your neighbor!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Clair



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Sunday, June 2nd

The youth will sponsor a fundraising lunch, after morning worship, in support of their summer mission trip. We hope you will plan to join us and show your support of our young people! They will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs fresh off the grill with all the fixin's, watermelon and desserts.

YOUTH SUMMER MISSION PROJECT

The Wesley Memorial Youth will do mission work in and around Chattanooga for a week as part of the Camp Lookout Jr. High Service Week, June 3rd through June 7th. While spending the week at Camp Lookout, the youth will join other youth in community service projects throughout the Chattanooga area.



We will be hosting families with Family Promise the week of June 2-8. We still need a few volunteers to serve as greeters, prepare meals, and spend the night. Please sign up to help on the white board posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. See Suzanne Burnett or Pam Varnell for more information.



Haylee Brook Ingle, Granddaughter of Bonnie Colquitt and Great Granddaughter of Barbara Uren, graduated magna cum laude from UTC with a BS in Social Work.

Emma Ballew graduated from Northgate High School in Newnan, Georgia. She will be attending the University of Georgia.

Addison Ballew graduated from Heritage High School in Ringgold, Georgia and plans to attend Dalton State. They are the granddaughters of Anita and Johnny Ballew.

Alexis Reese, granddaughter of Lynda Reese, graduated from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois with a BA in Criminal Justice.

Chadd McNabb, Great Grandson of Harold and Helen Hendrixson, graduated from Middleburg High School in Middleburg, Florida and will be attending Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Florida this fall.

Ben Sprayberry, Great Grandson of Nell Williams, graduated from Lakeview Fort Oglethorpe High School and has been awarded a full scholarship to Mercer.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL VISIONING RETREAT
The Church Leadership Council will have a Visioning Retreat at Christ United Methodist Church on Saturday, June 1, beginning at 9:30am. All members of the Council, please make note of this important meeting in the life of our church.

Wear red for Pentecost! On Sunday, June 9, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday! Pentecost marks the "birthday" of the Christian Church, when the Holy Spirit descended upon many people and thousands of new believers received the saving love of Christ. As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday this year, everyone is encouraged to wear red in the "Spirit" of the day!

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

**6314 East Brainerd Road
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Return Service Requested

**Church Office Email: wmumc.chatt@gmail.com
Church Office Phone: 423-892-6446**

Website: wesleymemorial-chatt.org

Prayer Concerns

CURRENT CONCERNS: Steaven Rogers, Sr., Mike Hammontree (Son of Janice Westmoreland), Don Krigbaum, Mike McAfee, Connie Hay (Siskin – Room 219 West), Marsena Walker, Pat Sauer (Mother of Ken), Allan Johnson (Friend of Rick Mansfield), Adna James (Friend of Helen Hendrixson), Floy Wang, Ben Matherly, Marjorie Webb, Betty Ellington (Mother of Phil Ellington), Eduardo Mendez (Nephew of Joy Billings)

ONGOING MEDICAL CONDITIONS: Ann Anderson, Dot & Gene Arnold, Deane Barker, Sarah Porter Bigelow (Friend of Joy Billings), Don Bowers (Father of D. J. {Valorie} Bowers), Betty Brickman, Steve Brothers, Pete Bryant, Malinda Cawthorne (Cousin of Brenda Fields), Janice & Dan Coleman, Steve & Susan Cox (Uncle & Aunt of Pastor Clair), Margaret Ellington, Inez Ernst, Hazel Garner, Katie Grigsby (Niece of Stephen Walker), Will Hagaman (Nephew of Debbie Hackney), Allison Hargis, Gail Hathaway (Sister of Joy Billings), Harold Hendrixson, C. D. Hilliard, Freda C. Johnson (Sister-in-law of Bonnie Colquitt), Joyce (Friend of Ken Levi), Christopher Ledford (Friend of Rick Mansfield), Ken & Susan Levi, Mike Lynn (Friend of Pam Brooks), Kathy Mansfield, Mike Mingle, Casey Minnick (Sister of Kelsey Shaver), Robin & David Minnick (Parents of Kelsey Shaver), Russell Pickett (Uncle of Starr Alexander), Chuck Poole (Friend of Hendrixsons), Mary Rook, Floy Strickland, Paul Strickland, Jennifer Trent, Barbara Uren, J. Dan Weeks & Susan Lavan (Friends of Pam Varnell)

MILITARY: MC/MM Scott Gamble – US Navy (Goose Creek, SC)

ASSISTED LIVING and NURSING HOMES: Betty Brown – Standifer Place (Room 252), Joyce Durham – Elmcroft of Shallowford Road (Mother of Starr Alexander), Dorothy Orr – Lifecare of Collegedale (Mother of Sue Steffner), Becky Teague–Southern Oak Oaks (Room 210)

**Attendance & Offerings for
MAY 2019**

OFFERINGS (For Month of May) \$ 18,303.00

Sunday School (Average)	27
Morning Worship (Average)	51

**IN MINISTRY FOR THE MONTH OF
JUNE 2019**

USHERS/GREETERS	Dan Coleman & Karen Mansfield
LAY LEADERS:	Rick Mansfield
PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:	06/02 David Smith
	06/09 Tom Steffner
	06/16 Jerri & CD Hilliard
	06/23 Eric Burnett
	06/30 Connie & Naomi Hay
ALTAR GUILD:	Kathy Andrews & Brenda Fields
ALTAR FLOWERS:	The Church
AUDIO-VIDEO:	Dan Coleman & Kip Smith



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jason wheeler
- 4 Susan Butler
- 9 Janice Coleman
- 12 Dean Teague
- 18 Susan Levi
- 19 Stephen Walker
- 23 Anita Ballew

Sympathy

*We extend our Christian love and sympathy to
Rob and Tosha Rehman and family and friends of
Marcia Rehman
who passed away recently.*

On Sunday, June 16, we will kick-off a new sermon series about the great Israelite leader, David. We will learn about David the shepherd, warrior, king, and poet. This is a great opportunity for you and your friends and neighbors to learn more about this typical human, full of faults and foibles, and yet whose heart was set on God as he led the Israelite people.

Give online! You can support the ministries of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church by Credit Card, Debit Card, or E-check. Visit wesleymemorial-chatt.org to give!