



Disciple Moments

The Newsletter of St. Paul United Methodist Church & Center Grove United Methodist Church
"Small Church...Big hearts for serving the Lord & our neighbor in Love...transforming the world"
October/November 2018 edition

Reflection on Mission (Paradigm Shift God is calling us to make in missions)

The readings, lectures, assignments, and surveys have been very focused on the cultural attention necessary for missions. The material has been pointed in ways that it causes me to participate in a closer self-examination regarding cultural humility, cultural competence, and missional posture.

Entering the COS 423 class, I felt I had a reasonable understanding of mission with more than ten years of serving as a pastor and being engaged in disaster response in the world of emergency services over a multitude of deployments. The foundation I had was good; however, this foundation is stronger now as a result of this encountering of new material I have experienced in this class. Little did I know God would use an old text written in 1976 by Howard Thurman to step on my toes in a such a fashion as to open my eyes to see more clearly. What I expected to be a class instructing us in the technique of going forth to make disciples and sharing the love of Christ turned into a cultural awakening for me because of God's grace. The diversity of our class and instructional staff further contributed to this positive learning environment.

I am who I am and as a result; my ministry and mission may be perceived in an imperialistic manner despite my intentions. Imperialistic cultures cannot force change using their power or perceived power and influence. I am a forty something white male born in Georgia and raised in North Carolina. My life has been far from easy; however, I have worked to have a home, a successful bi-vocational career, and college education (two degrees at present). My efforts to reach the least, last, lost, and oppressed may be perceived as acts of charity or a promissory covenantal type action where one is considered to have greater power than the other. Thurman illustrates this in his text, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, related to a conversation about mission when asked of his motive. I must be aware as to avoid becoming or being perceived as culturally arrogant. I must understand the perceptions that may exist and work to overcome these perceptions that my ministry of mission is considered to be of pure motive.

God used the Intercultural Development Inventory to help me see self and the fields of ministry and mission in new ways with my eyes and heart. I understand now the need to be informed by many voices and to see in new ways. I must spend more time with the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5: 1-12 to more fully understand the field of mission and the corruption of the world in which we practice mission.

St. Paul UMC: Worship at 9:45 a.m. – 4877 Hwy 200 Concord
Center Grove UMC: Worship at 11:05 a.m. – 8055 Hwy 200 Midland NC
Pastor: Rev. Alan Thompson, athompson@wnccumc.net, 704/791-2907

I understand we are called to be hearers and doers of the world in Matthew 7: 24-28. Essentially, we must be effective in the practice of that which is the love of Christ through forgiveness, love, and relationships. To do this, we first must rise above the barriers. I must be aware of self-imposed or perceived barriers because of my cultural identity and be open to the difference made visible through other cultures that I may be fully opened to the ministry of missions.

Prayers of the people (Local Church)

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Wanda Krimminger | Billie Hipsley |
| Becky Morgan | Rod & Thelma Tomberlin |
| Kathy Hartsell | Jackie Duke & Family |
| Allen Hartsell | Bob Krimminger |
| Sarah Dry | Don Cassese |
| Helen Shinn | Angel Thompson |
| Belinda Morton | Tammy Beaver |
| Max Maske | Jim Hartsell |

Community Prayers

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Kate & Jerry Fincher | Sharon Tomberlin |
| Grady Roten | Henry Roten |
| David Nixon | Ted Macomber |
| Carol Corey | Clara Tomberlin |
| Lori Love | Mike Martin |
| Robert Mills | Gail Mullins |
| Jimmy Lanier | Lynda Johnson |
| Billy Robins | Chris Maske |
| Billy & Karen Honeycutt | Jim Barbee |
| Lanny Cruise | Bobby Suarez |
| Ezra Demby | Lynette Anderson |
| Piper Davis & Family | Hugh Biggers |
| Barbara & Robert Shinn | Lee Hudson |
| Billy Mack Faggart | Julie Banker |
| Steven Nichols | Baby Berger |
| Jerry McGraw | |

Homebound

Elizabeth Widenhouse
(Brookdale Nursing)
Laura Leigh
(Morningside Nursing)
Helen Shinn
(Universal Healthcare)

Charge Conference

*Joint Charge Conference will be held 10/8/18 at 6 pm at SPUMC for both churches. Rev. Neal Jones presiding

*All committee and chair reports are due to pastor by 9/30/18. They can be found at www.wnccadminorg/cnfdocuments.cfm



Upcoming events

- Holy Communion (1st Sunday)
- SPUMC Council (1st Sunday)
- CGUMC Council (3rd Sunday)
- Trunk or Treat SPUMC – 10/31/18
- Christmas movie & cookies SPUMC – 12/9/18
- Christmas caroling SPUMC – 12/16/18
- Safe Sanctuary Training (TBD)
- CPR Training (TBD)

Birthdays & Anniversaries (October/November)

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Tammy Beaver | 10/30 | Elizabeth/Chris Belch | 10/22 |
| Alan/Myra Thompson | 10/23 | Nancy Campbell | 11/11 |
| Travis Campbell | 10/2 | Kathy Cranford | 11/28 |
| Susan Eastwood | 11/17 | Bryan/Penny McCulloh | 11/2 |
| Ben Milke | 11/15 | Austin Milke | 10/29 |
| William Thomas Milke | 11/28 | Bri Kepley | 10/21 |
| Jennifer Miller | 10/17 | Doug Mills | 10/21 |
| Doug/Peggy Mills | 11/17 | Brittany Demby | 10/9 |
| Todd/Mitzi Wilcox | 11/2 | Hope Wray | 10/25 |
| Jackie Duke | 10/23 | Jim Hartsell | 11/15 |
| Bob Krimminger | 10/26 | Wanda Krimminger | 11/20 |
| Vicky Thompson | 10/26 | Morgan Widenhouse | 11/1 |
| James & Kim Widenhouse | 10/8 | | |
| Ayden Linker | 10/14 | | |

Special News

Laity Service Awards

We are pleased to announce the following have been selected as recipients of the annual Laity Service Award for 2018: Kathy Cranford and Eric Shaver from SPUMC with Bob Krimminger from CGUMC.

They will be recognized formally at 3 pm on 10/21 at Hickory Grove UMC, 6401 Hickory Grove Rd, Charlotte, NC

2018 Important Contacts

| Position | SPUMC | CGUMC |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Pastor | Alan Thompson | Alan Thompson |
| Lay Leader | William Beaver | |
| Council Chair | Tammy Beaver | Phyllis Hartsell |
| Finance | Andrea Cline | Cathy Hartsell |
| Trustee Chair | Eric Shaver | Bob Krimminger |
| SPRC Chair | William Beaver | |
| A/C delegate | Penny McCulloh(res) | |
| Lay Speakers | William Beaver Dusty Morgan | |

Upcoming 5th Sundays

12/30/18

Safe Sanctuaries

God calls us to make our churches safe places, protecting children and other vulnerable persons from sexual and ritual abuse. God calls us to create communities of faith where children and adults grow safe and strong.

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Always stay current with news and happenings in the Western NC Conference And the Metro District...

<https://www.wnccumc.org/>

Commission on a Way Forward

Human Sexuality in the Methodist Church

<https://www.wnccumc.org/commissiononawayforwardresources>

See the entire report at

<https://wnc-www.brt-site.com/newsdetail/way-forward-report-released-in-all-four-official-languages-of-general-conference-11609061>

Mission and Service Opportunities



<https://www.opphouse.net/>

704/786-4020



<http://cooperativeministry.com/>

704/786-4709

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<https://www.facebook.com/Jamis-Halo-714036168633296/>



Please SEND (front only) of your recycled cards (except for Hallmark, American Greetings or Disney) to: **St. Jude's Ranch for Children, 100 St. Jude's St., Boulder City, NV 89005**

<https://stjudesranch.org/recycled-card-program/>

Wings of Eagles Ranch

therapeutic horseback riding & outdoor adventure center

<http://wingsofeaglesranch.org/you-can-help.html>



Relief Supply Kits

<https://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>

Disaster Response Team Opportunities and Training

<https://www.umcmmission.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer-Opportunities/Types-of-Volunteers/Disaster-Response/Disaster-Response>

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