

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 17, No. 11

November 1, 2021

Three Reasons to Rejoice

We come to the time of year when the topic of gratitude becomes a theme. Some of us will embark on a thirty day journey of counting blessings. The words of the apostle Paul come to mind, as he exhorts the church to give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:18). As I considered this, my mind began to run through some places in scripture where we see joy and gratitude expressed.

We can rejoice because we have a grand future. “Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God” (Romans 5:2). Can you remember what it feels like to be full of anticipation for something? Maybe it was a long-awaited vacation or a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The longing builds as we approach the day when hope becomes reality. For the Christian, this anticipation should regularly swell within us. What a glorious day it will be, when my Jesus I shall see! The heart cannot comprehend what God has in store for those who love Him. For the unfathomable treasure of eternal life, I give thanks.

We can rejoice because trying circumstances are God’s tool. “...we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance; and endurance, proven character; and proven character, hope” (Romans 5:3-4). Naming difficulties as a reason for thanksgiving is something you will seldom see—unless you read the Bible. Gold surely doesn’t enjoy the refining fire, nor does clay delight in the pressure of the potter’s hands. For both, though, the process of shaping and refining produces something precious and beautiful. For God’s ongoing work in me even through hardships, I give thanks.

We can rejoice because God is always propagating the Gospel. “What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice” (Philippians 1:18). Look a bit closer at the context of this verse and you will see that Paul speaks of others who are preaching the Gospel. Some are doing it out of godly motives, and some out of selfish motives. Paul’s response is unusual. Regardless of the motives, he rejoices in one thing: Jesus is being preached. Period. I find that it requires much less energy on my part if I simply delight in good things that happen and not wrap myself in concern over what motivated someone to do those things. And what could be greater than the Gospel being preached? Regardless of the messed up state of the people called Christian, God is still in the Gospel business, and for that I give thanks.

Pastor Dave



Angel Tree Time

The interviews for Angel Tree have been conducted and the trees will go up soon. Please be on the look out for the tree so you can get your angel ASAP! If you'd rather, you can always give a monetary donation. Just make your check out to RMUMC and put Angel Tree in the memo. Thank you for making Christmas special for the kids in our community.



Moving Forward, Grief Group

Please join us on Tuesdays, starting November 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the Deen Building for a brand new grief group, Moving Forward. This is for anyone that has or is in the middle of experiencing a loss. For more information, contact Jerry Huff (903)458-2004.

The logo for rightnow MEDIA. It features the word "rightnow" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font and "MEDIA" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, all set against a black rectangular background with an orange border.

rightnow MEDIA

Right Now Media

Don't forget about the amazing offer of rightnow media offered through the church. Text RMUMC to 49775 for an invitation to set up your account, or contact the church office to request help.



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S. If you feel led to help with this project, you can visit samaritanaspurse.org for instructions on how to pack a shoe box. Completed shoe boxes can be taken to Gospel For Asia between November 15-22.

Administrative Committees 2022

RMUMC Church Council 2022

Chair.....Bret Wortham
Treasurer.....Kay Crosby
Lay Leader.....Beau Poteet
Lay Member of Annual Conference
.....Larry Turner
Alter. Lay Delegate to Annual Conference
.....Marsha Matthews
Trustees Chair.....To Be Elected
Finance Chair..... Larry Turner
Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair
.....Suzy Birdwell
UMW President..... Lois Butts
UMM President..... To Be Elected
Discipleship Coord.....Carol Miracle
Children's Ministry Coordinator
.....Kelli Huff
Youth Representative.....Grayce Malone
Youth Media Admin..... Clair Huff
Fellowship Ministry Coordinator
.....Rene Cartwright
Worship Ministry Coordinator
.....Barbara Lamb
Minister of Music.....John Ross
Outreach Coordinator.....Sherri Rowe
Day School Board Chair.....Theresa Turner
Director of Youth Ministries
.....Jerry Don Huff
Pastor.....David Cartwright

Finance Committee

Larry Turner (Chair)	Suzy Birdwell
Beau Poteet	Kay Crosby
Trustees Chair (TBE)	Jackie Cockerham
David Cartwright	Kerin Wortham
Ernie Fields	Jennifer Collins

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Martha Todd	Linda Greenwald
Marsha Matthews	Suzy Birdwell (Chair)
Erin Galope	Shane McBride
Steve Collins	Rob Nychka
Mike Roddy	Beau Poteet
Larry Turner	David Cartwright

Trustees (chair to be elected)

James Brown	Danny Brown
Johnny Stanbough	Gerald Haney
Sherry Moore	Leslie Nychka
Debbie Faulkenbury	Barbara Lamb
Jim Briggs	

Lay Leadership (Nominations)

Erin Galope	Nancy McDonald
Cathy Lamb	Les Whitaker
Herschel LyBrand	Brenda Brown
Janet Nantze	Linda Greenwald
Fritz Gilbreth	Beau Poteet
David Cartwright	

Methodist Day School Board

Bret Wortham	Larry Turner
Suzy Birdwell	Trustees Chair
Kay Crosby	Theresa Turner (Chair)
David Cartwright	Betty Briggs
Kelli Huff	Janet Nantze

Memorial Committee

Barbara Lamb	Leslie Nychka
Jerry Don Huff	Philip McDonald
Linda Malone	Linda Poteet

Calendar of Events for November

Dates to Remember for November



Monday, November 1, 6:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting
 Tuesday, November 2, 5:30 p.m. “Moving Forward” Grief Works Meeting in the Deen Building (Meets Weekly)
 Monday, November 11, 5:00 p.m. Day School Board Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting
 Saturday, November 13, 10:00 a.m. Safety Team Meeting
 Sunday, November 14, UMW Sunday
 Sunday, November 14, 6:00 p.m. Community Thanksgiving @ First Baptist
 Saturday, November 20, 9:00 a.m. Crafting with Christ
 Sunday, November 21, UMW Baked Goods Sale
 Thursday, November 26, Thanksgiving Day—Church Office Closed

Happy Birthday!

Jack Robinette	11-2
Fritz Gilbreth	11-2
Arthur Galope, Jr.	11-7
Maggie McDonald	11-8
Stephani Curtis	11-8
Taylor Hulsey	11-8
Betty Cartwright	11-11
Judy Powers	11-16
Kathy Kulwicki	11-21
Jeff Aston	11-22

Marilyn Roddy	11-23
Valerie Pearson	11-23
Lynn Rowe	11-24
Erin Galope	11-26
Victor Pearson	11-26
Kelly Begley	11-27



Community Thanksgiving

The congregations of Wills Point will gather for our annual Thanksgiving worship service on Sunday evening, November 14 at 6:00. The service this year will be at First Baptist Church. This is a great opportunity to worship in unity with our brothers and sisters from neighboring churches. The offering for the evening will provide scholarships for graduating seniors.

Our Presence and Our Gifts

	<u>Oct. 3</u>	<u>Oct. 10</u>	<u>Oct. 17</u>	<u>Oct. 24</u>
Worship	77	87	92	81
Giving	\$5,482.00	\$8,384.75	\$3,789.00	\$4,722.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00pm Trustees	2 5:30pm Moving Forward—Grief Meeting in Deen Bldg.	3 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice	4	5	6
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 5:00pm Youth Group	8 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance	9 5:30pm Moving Forward—Grief Meeting in Deen Bldg.	10 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice	11	12	13 10:00 am Safety Team
14 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 5:00pm Youth Group 6:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service	15	16 5:30pm Moving Forward—Grief Meeting in Deen Bldg.	17 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice	18	19	20 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall)
21 UMW Bake Sale 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 5:00pm Youth Group	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed	26	27
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 5:00pm Youth Group	29	30 5:30pm Moving Forward—Grief Meeting in Deen Bldg.				



Food Giveaway in Wills Point

Looking for the perfect opportunity to volunteer?! Well, look no further. Bread for the Hungry is working with the East Texas Food Bank in our area. They are handing out food on Fridays from 4:00-7:00 p.m. If that time doesn't work for you, they load the food bags on Fridays from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (You aren't required to stay the entire time, work what's best for you). They also need help on Saturday mornings loading a truck to deliver to Myrtle Springs and Rolling Oaks (just loading trucks, not delivering). Contact

Nancy Roberts, 214-354-6780, for details and to sign up.

Memorials

In memory of

Liz Ellis

Given by

Larry & Theresa Turner, Tommy & Linda Malone, Shirley Reed, F.G. & Becky Hardy, Jim & Carolyn Hawkins, Jim & Barbara Lamb, Ginger Hess, Judy Powers, Lenna & George Deen, Fritz Gilbreth, Dorothy Bruster, Mr. & Mrs. Gibb Matlock and Ron Turner.

In memory of

Sara Bullard

Given by

Sammy & Donna Gunter, Jim & Barbara Lamb, Larry & Theresa Turner, Jim & Carolyn Hawkins, Ginger Hess, Judy Powers, Sherri Greene, Fritz Gilbreth, and F.G. & Becky Hardy.

In memory of

Marvin Carlisle

Given by

Ron Turner.

In memory of

Annette Clemmons

Given by

Ron Turner.

In memory of

Chuck Currie

Given by

Ron Turner.

In memory of

Robbie Herrington

Given by

Jim & Barbara Lamb.

In memory of

Bonnie George

Given by

Ron Turner.

In memory of

Beverly Roddy

Given by

Ginger Hess.

In memory of

Jimmy Martinez

Given by

Ginger Hess.

Remember in Prayer:

Family of Darren Attaway
Family of Sara Bullard
Family of Liz Ellis
Family of Russell Truett
Family of Robbie Herrington
Family of Audrey Stinson
Family of Dolores Phillips
Family of Thomas Butts
Family of Bennie McBride
Arthur Galope, Jr.
Alana Simpson
Aneya Williams
Andy Anderson
Betty Manning
Billie Cade
Bobby Petillo
Brandon Trail
Bruce Lacy
Carl Fulton

Caroline Edwards
Chad Ash
Cheryl Bradley
Christy (Culpepper's
granddaughter)
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Dan & Martha Todd
Dana Hullum
Darin Richardson
Dave Edwards
Denny McCormick
Dianne Deen James
Dianna Perry
Doris High
Emily Cockerham
Eric Johns
Eyal Family
Harrison Mayone
Hunter Haney
Isaac Bullard

Jared McDonald
Jennifer Mansell
Jim Lathem
Kay & Benny Mitchell
Keeta Lybrand
Laura Bates
Marigrace & Mike Lang
Mark Brown
Matlock Family
Matt James
Maxine Page
Nell Carter
Paul Cain
Roger & Jan Moore
Students, Teachers & Admin.
Sunday School & Church
Terry & Carol McDermott
Virginia Cockerham
Wayne Rhodes

“An Unexpected Christmas”

Imagine you are out of town on Christmas Eve. You are looking forward to a Christmas Eve Service at your church or you are looking forward to just getting home to having Christmas with your family and loved ones, filled with cozy fireplaces and holiday meals. The only problem is now you are stuck in a train station during one of the worst snow-storms in recent memories with no way to get back home.

Imagine how an Unexpected storm can become an Unexpected opportunity to share with others what the Christmas season is really about. An Unexpected chance to realize what God has done in your life, and maybe to realize what is missing in your life as well.



The choir is preparing a musical about just such a situation; A great story filled with wonderful, heartfelt music. It's “An Unexpected Christmas.” We need your voice. We need your fellowship. We need you. Come join us on Wednesday nights, in the sanctuary, at 7:15 as we rehearse for “An Unexpected Christmas.” Who knows? You might just find, Unexpectedly, that you really like singing with us and stay.

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Rev. David Cartwright, Pastor
John Ross, Minister of Music
Theresa Turner, Ladies Hand Bells Director
Kristy Adams, Pianist
Jerry Don Huff, Youth Director

Nancy McDonald, Office Administrator
Fritz Gilbreth, Organist
Kelli Huff, K6 Kids Coordinator
Jackie Cockerham, Financial Administrator

Join us Sunday Morning!

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED