

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 18, No. 3

March 1, 2022

Finding Rest

Before January 9, 2014, the greatest water challenge for people in the Kanawha Valley of West Virginia was the race against other family members for hot shower water in the mornings. When a chemical spill contaminated the water supply to over 300,000 residents, things quickly changed. People across nine counties had a new priority: access to useable water. Other priorities suddenly became secondary.

In our society we have produced answers to every need we can possibly have: pain killers for physical ailments, entertainment for mental stimulation, spas and endless products to satisfy the body, media connections (from Facebook to telephone) to satisfy social needs. Yet with all of this and much more, we still have not avoided the reality of spiritual unrest. What happens when we cannot find rest for the soul, when none of our “answers” satisfy the true longing of the heart? As with the absence of water, the longing for God takes priority over all other desires and pursuits.

The writer of Psalm 42 begins with this confession: “As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God.” Like a parched tongue, the soul ultimately longs for the satisfaction of God’s presence. Corrie ten Boom is credited with saying, “You will never know that Jesus is all you need until Jesus is all you have.” Why is it that we often must come to times of near-crisis in order to remember what is essential in life? Must we have our possessions reduced to nothing before we realize that only Jesus is necessary for true fulfillment? Perhaps not, but it is curious how something as necessary as potable water could consistently escape our notice until we face being without it.

We are a restless generation. We resemble a person sitting on the sofa, flipping channels on the television, looking for something to watch and finding nothing. Maybe the problem is that we too easily forget—or ignore—the source of real satisfaction. Further, we lose sight of the reality that the “living water” of Christ is always near and consistently available. When our memory and mindfulness escapes us, we find ourselves living like people begging for a cup of water, all while the pump handle of the well is already in our hands.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Lent is a season that calls us to turn our attention. Most of us would welcome some soul-refreshing. Thankfully we serve a Savior who delights in pouring fresh life into his children. I pray that this season will bring to you a refreshing of the soul, a spiritual drink from the clean, cool well of God's mercy and grace. May the Lord richly bless your journey.

Pastor Dave



Lenten Sermon Series

The last night of Jesus' life was spent in a powerful time of conversation with his closest friends. That evening must have produced anxiety and perplexity among those disciples. During the season of Lent we will "camp out" in the texts of that evening, looking specifically at three questions asked by the disciples and two promises made by Jesus.

Week 1) John 13:21-25, 31-33, 36-38 "Will I Be the Betrayer?"

Week 2) John 14:1-7 "How Do We Know the Way?"

Week 3) John 14:18-24 "Why Only to Us?"

Week 4) John 16:16-22 "Your Sorrow Will Turn to Joy."

Week 5) John 14:15-17 "I Will Send the Helper."



Don't Forget!

Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 13. Remember to set your clocks ahead so you won't be late for Sunday morning opportunities!



United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will have a meeting on Wednesday evening, March 16 at 6:00. The time will be spent in prayer and study, followed by planning men's ministry for the coming months. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend. Your presence is important as we prepare to serve our congregation and our community in the name of Christ. The meeting will be in the Deen Building.



Summer Camp

Lakeview Methodist Camp is prepared once again to host children and youth for summer camp. Lakeview is a beautiful facility, and those attending will notice ongoing improvements being made to the grounds and to programming. Each week of camp runs Monday through Friday, beginning on June 13. Campers are welcome from those entering 3rd grade through graduating seniors. Information, registration and payment are available at www.lakeviewmcc.org.



Good Things Happening in Sunday School

Have you been absent from Sunday School for a while? Now is a great time to return as adult classes are just beginning some new studies. The New Beginnings class is starting a journey through the book of Ephesians with teacher J.D. Greear. The scripture and the lessons are great resources to help the church thrive in her mission in the world. The Seekers class is making a journey over-viewing books of the Old Testament. With animated illustrations of each Bible book, this series helps to outline the main ideas of the Bible book and show how it fits into the whole narrative of the Bible. The New Disciples class is just beginning a Tony Evans series called Oneness Embraced. At a time when divisions in our country remain strong, the Church is called to demonstrate the unity we have in Christ. This series will help to address racial tensions that remain among us and challenge us to work toward a more God-honoring future. Of course there are always opportunities prepared for our children as well, so bring the family and join us at 9:00 on Sunday morning as we grow together.

Calendar of Events for March

Dates to Remember for March



Wednesday, March 2, 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
 Sunday, March 6, First Sunday of Lent
 Wednesday, March 9, No Choir or Hand Bell Practice
 Saturday, March 12, 10:00 a.m. Safety Team Meeting
 Sunday, March 13, Day Light Savings time begins!!
 Wednesday, March 16, 6:00 p.m. UMM Meeting
 Saturday, March 19, 9:00 a.m. Crafting with Christ
 Sunday, March 20, 11:20 a.m. Church Council Meeting
 Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. Ladies Hand Bells
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
 Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. Revelation Bible Study

Happy Birthday!

Hayden Wilcoxson	3/1
Jackie Cockerham	3/1
Arriana McDonald	3/2
Carol McDermott	3/2
Beth Basham	3/5
Jim Smith	3/10
Denny McCormick	3/11
Patsy Davis	3/12
Pat Vann	3/17
Ginger Hess	3/20
Dorothy Bruster	3/24

Tiffany Koffel	3/24
John Ross	3/28
Robert Butts	3/29



Church/Administrative Council Meeting

The administrative council will meet on Sunday, March 20 at 11:20. Reports are due to the church office a week in advance.

Our Presence and Our Gifts

	<u>Jan. 30</u>	<u>Feb. 6</u>	<u>Feb. 13</u>	<u>Feb. 20</u>
Worship	73	77	84	91
Giving	\$4,090.00	\$4,427.00	\$8,442.00	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6:40 pm Abbreviated Choir practice in Choir room 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	3 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study	4	5
6 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	7 6:00pm Trustees	8	9	10 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study	11	12 10:00 am Safety Team
WPI SD Spring Break						
13 DAY LIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	14 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance	15	16 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 6:00pm UMM Meeting 7:15pm Choir Practice	17 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study	18	19 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall)
20 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:20 am Church Council Meeting	21	22	23 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice	24 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study	25	26
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	28	29	30 6:00pm Ladies Hand Bells 7:15pm Choir Practice	31 6:00 pm Revelation Bible Study		



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
Grace Kosub
Given by
Fritz Gilbreth, &
FG and Becky Hardy.



Thank You

Thank you for inviting me out as your featured artist for the fifth Sunday service. I had a blast! Hopefully, we can do it again sometime.
Sincerely,
Russ Collins



Just Be One T-Shirts

Did you order a Just Be One T-shirt from the youth? If you did, please see Jerry Don Huff, he has them! If you didn't, why not?! You can still pick one up for the low, low price of \$15. They still have several available and would love to set you up with some. Contact Jerry Huff, 214-458-2004.

Remember in Prayer:

Family of Joseph Parker
Family of Grace Kosub
Family of Debbie Bateman
Aneya Williams
Alana Simpson
Angelina Fields
Andy Anderson
Arthur Galope, Jr.
Becca Rowe
Betty Manning
Billie Cade
Bobbi Smith
Bobby Petillo
Carl Fulton
Caroline Edwards
Chad Ash
Cheryl Bradley
Christy (Culpepper's
granddaughter)

Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Dana Hullum
Darin Richardson
Dave Edwards
Deb Keltner
Dianna Perry
Emily Cockerham
Eric Johns
Evan Mayone
Eyal Family
Harrison Mayone
Hunter Haney
Isaac Bullard
Jared McDonald
Jim Freeman
Joe Madden
John Buffington
Katherine Bunce
Kay & Bennie Mitchell
Karl & Keeta Lybrand

Ken Mansell
Laura Bates
Linda Greenwald
Mark Brown
Marigrace & Mike Lang
Margie Evers
Mary Bullard
Matt James
Maxine Page
Military
Paul Cain
Roger Moore's brother
Sherry & Lynn Mullins
Students, Teachers & Admin.
Sunday School & Church
Terry McDermott
Virginia Cockerham
Wayne Rhodes



Welcome!

We are blessed to welcome the Zelnick family as new members of Russell Memorial church. They come to us from Providence Presbyterian Church in Dallas. They reside in the Heartland area of Forney. Murray, Elisa and sons Andrew and Joseph are excited to become active in our church family life. We look forward to years of joyful service together with the Zelnick family.

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.

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Rev. David Cartwright, Pastor

John Ross, Minister of Music

Theresa Turner, Ladies Hand Bells Director

Jackie Cockerham, Financial Administrator

Nancy McDonald, Office Administrator

Fritz Gilbreth, Organist

Kelli Huff, K6 Kids Coordinator

Jerry Don Huff, Youth Director

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