

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial United Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 18, No. 7&8

July/August 2022

Visionaries

Who are the greatest visionaries in the Bible? One of the first we might mention is Jesus. (After all, Jesus is always the answer, right?) While we might consider him the greatest, Jesus is only one of many visionaries mentioned in the pages of Scripture. They are people upon whom God placed a particular calling and in whose hearts placed an associated vision of how they would serve God's grand work of redemption. Let us consider a few as examples.

Consider an elderly nomad, married with no children, living in the region of Haran (modern day Turkey). God says, "Pack up all your things, move to a place I will show you, and I will make you a great nation" (paraphrased Gen. 12:1-2). "Say what, God?" With nothing more than a holy promise, Abram packed his things and began a journey to Canaan. Or consider Moses, whose conversation with the Almighty at a burning bush set him on a leadership journey that would define his life. The vision was simple: get God's people from Egypt back to Canaan. It was a journey on which he challenged the most powerful leader of the world, saw unrivaled miracles of God, got totally frustrated with the people *and* with God, and after 40 years went to his grave with the blessing of a mountaintop view of the vision's fulfillment (Deuteronomy 34).

Is it possible to talk about vision without mentioning Nehemiah? Serving a foreign king in captivity, God placed upon Nehemiah's heart a vision of Jerusalem restored, the city and the Temple within it that represented God's blessing upon a chosen people. Risking his own well-being, Nehemiah shared the vision with the king, returned to Jerusalem, moved past the shock of its devastation, and rallied others in the work of rebuilding. It was work that some have said was accomplished with a hammer in one hand and a sword in the other. Other visionaries could be mentioned as well. There was Paul, powered by a vision of the world embracing the Gospel of Christ. There was John, filled with a revelation of God's perfect kingdom established, a vision preserved in Scripture to encourage the Church of all ages.

These and many other visionaries in Scripture were called by one God to many varied visions. It is not that the visions were disconnected; they ALL served the one grand mission of God. Even so, the visions were particular to the people, times and places involved. When God needed an obedient, grandfatherly spirit to be a sojourner, He tapped the shoulder of Abram. When God needed a shepherd to lead a mass of people, He turned Moses aside. When he needed a zealot to passionately preach about Jesus in foreign places, He stopped Saul in his tracks. When God needed a general contractor who had no fear of opposition, He burdened the heart of Nehemiah. (cont. pg 2)

(cont. from pg. 1) Vision is not generic. It answers the question, “Who does God want me/us to be in this place for such a time as this?”

For many generations the Kingdom has been faithfully served by visionaries. Most will remain unknown in the broad history of humanity, but they will be very well known by those who are impacted by their passionate obedience. God is not done raising up visionaries. There is always a “right here, right now” element to God’s work. Perhaps you are one of the visionaries in our midst who are prayerfully pondering the “here and now” questions. If so, please continue doing so. Invite others into the conversation. Seek the Lord’s direction, not around the reality of what we have been, but around the vision of what we are becoming in Christ. By God’s grace, may we be found as faithful as the Abrams and Nehemiahs who have gone before us.

Pastor Dave

Happy Birthday!

July		August	
Lillian Cormier	7/4	Donna Rowland	8/1
Trinity Hulsey	7/6	Jeanie Hataway	8/1
FG Hardy	7/7	Linda Dickerson	8/1
Carol Miracle	7/8	Jana Davis	8/1
Ernie Fields	7/10	Helen Tapp	8/3
Marissa Fields	7/10	Kelli Huff	8/4
Jim Lathem	7/10	Bryson Brown	8/5
Betty Cartwright	7/11	Aiden Nychka	8/6
Larry Heckman	7/12	Lucy Hill	8/6
Judith Hollister	7/13	Cathy (Lamb) Stein	8/6
Jacob Rowland	7/22	Mike Roddy	8/7
Keeta Lybrand	7/22	Robin Berry	8/9
Marie Shastid	7/23	Sarah Garay	8/9
Arthur Galope, Sr.	7/23	Ron Turner	8/11
Philip McDonald	7/24	Roger Moore	8/11
Les Whitaker	7/26	Angelina Fields	8/13
Rev. David Cartwright	7/26	Brenda Cherry	8/16
Chris Baldwin	7/27	Brenda Brown	8/17
Mike Williams	7/27	Larry Turner	8/18
Sherry Moore	7/28	Sandy Bryant	8/20
Ron Butler	7/28	Austin Teel	8/21
Marsha Matthews	7/28	Helen Lawrence	8/23
Susie Heckman	7/29	Pat Mitchell	8/23
Betty Briggs	7/30	Linda LyBrand	8/28
Mike Cade	7/30	Gerald Clemmons	8/28

Calendar of Events for July/August

Dates to Remember for July/August



Monday, July 4th, Church Office Closed
 Tuesday, July 5th, 6:00p.m. Trustees Meeting
 Saturday, July 9th, 10:00a.m. Safety Team Meeting
 Sunday, July 10th, 8:00a.m. UMM Meeting
 11:15a.m. Admin Council Meeting
 Monday, July 11th, 5:00p.m. Day School Board Meeting
 6:00p.m. Finance Meeting
 Saturday, July 16th, 9:00a.m. Crafting with Christ
 Sunday, July 17th, 3:00p.m. District Meeting @ Marvin UMC Tyler
 Saturday, July 23rd, 9:00a.m.—12:00p.m. Vision Retreat #4
 Sunday, July 24th, 2:00p.m.—4:00p.m. Deen Building in Use
 Tues. & Wed., July 26-27, WPISD in Deen Building
 Monday, August 1st, 6:00p.m. Trustees Meeting
 Wednesday, August 3rd, WPHS in Deen Building
 Saturday, August 6th, Back to School Fair at Wills Point High School
 Monday, August 8th, 5:00p.m. Day School Meeting
 6:00p.m. Finance Meeting
 Thursday, August 11th, First Day of School for WPISD
 Saturday, August 13th, 10:00a.m. Safety Team Meeting
 Sunday, August 14th, 8:00a.m. UMM Meeting
 Saturday, August 20th, 9:00a.m. Crafting with Christ
 2-4p.m. Deen Building in Use
 Sunday, August 28th, FIRE DRILL SUNDAY

Just Be One T-Shirts



Would you like a “Just Be One” T-shirt? Come see Nancy in the church office and she will get you one for the low price of \$15! Can’t make it by the office? Give her a call at 903-873-2569 and she’ll set one aside for you.

Our Presence and Our Gifts

	<u>May 29</u>	<u>June 5</u>	<u>June 12</u>	<u>June 19</u>	<u>June 26</u>
Worship	102	95	71	79	79
Giving	\$1957.00	\$6864.16	\$2728.00	\$5352.00	\$5167.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>JULY</h1>					1	2
3 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	4	5 6:00pm Trustees Meeting	6 7:15pm Choir Practice	7	8	9 10:00 am Safety Team
10 8:00 am UMM Meeting 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Admin Council Meeting	11 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance Meeting	12	13 7:15pm Choir Practice	14	15	16 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall)
17 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 3:00pm District Mtg Marvin UMC	18	19	20 7:15pm Choir Practice	21	22	23 9:00am Vision Retreat #4
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service Deen Building in Use 2-4 pm ---	25	26	27 7:15pm Choir Practice	28	29	30
31 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00pm Trustees Meeting	2	3 WPHS in Deen Building 7:15pm Choir Practice	4	5	6 Back to School Fair WPHS
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	8 5:00pm Day School 6:00pm Finance Meeting	9	10 7:15pm Choir Practice	11 First Day of School WPISD	12	13 10:00 am Safety Team
14 8:00 am UMM Meeting 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	15	16	17 7:15pm Choir Practice	18	19	20 9:00 am Crafting with Christ (in George Hall) 2-4 pm Deen Building in use
21 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	22	23	24 7:15pm Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service FIRE DRILL SUNDAY	29	30	31 7:15pm Choir Practice			

AUGUST



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

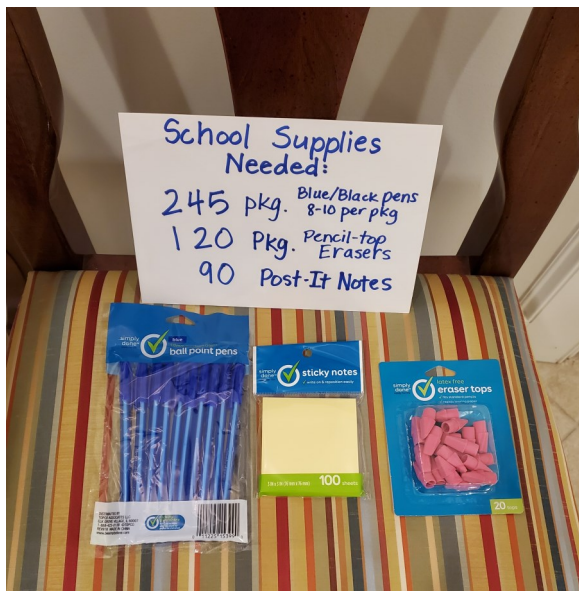
Nancy Roberts, 214-354-6780, for details and to sign up.



Make Note of Address Change

Mark Brown has a new address. I'm sure he'd love to hear from you. His new address is:

Kevin Brown 1470258
Beto Unit
1391 FM 3328
Tennessee Colony, TX 75880



Back to School Fair

The WPISD Back to School Fair is set for Saturday, August 6. This year, RMUMC is collecting 245 packages (8-10 pens each) of blue or black pens, 120 packages pencil top erasers, and 90 Post-It Notepads). You can order on Amazon and have them sent directly to the church, or, bring them up by August 1st. Thank you.

Remember in Prayer:

Family of Shirley Flowers
Roger Moore and Family
Family of Jackson Adams
Family of Harry E Liston
Family of Bobby Petillo
Family of Wayne Rhodes
Andy Anderson
Angie Smith
Art Galope, Jr.
Betty Manning
Betty McCormick
Billie Cade
Bobbi Smith
Carl Fulton
Chad Ash
Cheryl Bradley
Cheryl Shaw
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living
Darin Richardson
David Cartwright (not Rev.)

Dianna Perry
Eric Johns
Evan Mayone
Harrison Mayone
Helen Lawrence
Hunter Haney
Isaac Bullard
Jared McDonald
Jeff D'Amico
Jim Freeman
Jim & Sandra Smith
Joe Madden
John Buffington
Judith Hollister
Judy Powers
Kay & Benny Mitchell
Karl & Keeta Lybrand
Krisann Gunter Stegall
Laura Bates
Linda & Robert Greenwald
Lyn Haney
Marigrace & Mike Lang

Margie Evers
Mark Brown
Mary Bullard
Maxine Page
Mike Tolin
Patsy Aulich
Paul Cain
Richard Briley
Robert Butts
RMUMC Staff
Sharon Lumsden
Students, Teachers & Admin.
Sunday School & Church
Terry McDermott
Virginia Cockerham



Church Family,

Thank you so much for having a luncheon for the seniors this year. I appreciate my church family honoring us and our accomplishment. Again, thank you so much!

Grayce Malone

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

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