

The Russell Report

Russell Memorial Methodist Church

A Family Rooted in Christ and Reaching Out in Love



Vol. 19, No. 7

July 2023

Check It At the Door

What do you see when you look around the room before, during and after Sunday worship? How do you see the people? Here is a related question: how do you see yourself in that same room?

You know that I use the Wake-Up Call daily devotion as part of my spiritual journey. The entry for Thursday, June 29 is too good not to share. (You can find it at www.seedbed.com under the title "Why God Is Not Fair and Why That Is a Good Thing.") The text is from Romans 11:25-32, a passage where Paul mentions a temporary "hardening" that has come upon the Jews. If any group was a group of privilege, the Jews certainly were. Paul points out that even in their privilege, they will stand before God by the same terms as the Gentiles, the terms of God's mercy.

The Jews were not the only people inclined toward a mindset of privilege. We all are susceptible to that kind of thinking. We've been around longer than others, given more than others, and worked harder than others. Our parents did this for the church, our grandparents donated that. The list could go on and on. In all of this we forget that the way we stand in relationship with one another is predicated on how we stand in relationship with God, and no matter who we are, the only way to be in relationship with God is according to His mercy.

Perhaps we could remember these words of J.D. Walt the next time we walk into the sanctuary for worship. "Check your birthright at the door. Check your church attendance at the door. Check your good behavior at the door. Check your accomplishments and accolades and credentials and qualifications at the door. All of that might matter and have some value in some places but it has less than no value at the only door that ultimately matters. Yes, check your anything and everything else but 'Jesus Christ is Lord and God raised him from the dead,' at the door."

When you look around the room, try seeing yourself and everyone else simply as people who have checked everything at the door so we can celebrate the extravagant goodness of a merciful Savior. If it helps, remember that the ground at the foot of the cross is level. No one stands higher than another.

Pastor Dave

Back to School

It is time once again for us to collect school supplies for the annual community Back to School Fair. This year our congregation will be collecting quart-size Ziplock bags, gallon-size Ziplock bags, and packages of blue or black ink pens (8-10 each). You are welcome to bring these items to the church on Sundays or during weekly business hours. The fair is early in August, so do your shopping between now and mid-July.

Youth Swim Party

The youth enjoyed their first day of summer break with an afternoon of swimming. A game of sharks and minnows - color version was played and enjoyed. The youth would like to thank the Lamb's for hosting the swim party.



Gospel for Asia Mission Trip

Recently in worship you heard about some of our friends from Gospel for Asia who will be going on a mission trip to Rwanda, Africa. We now have the opportunity to continue our focus on prayer by interceding for the 21 individuals who are going. Pictured are the US missionaries:

Back row (left to right): Elizabeth Loghry, Abigail Loghry, Hannah Loghry, Brandon Powell, Caeden Johnson, Ethan Nichols, Ashton Winkler, Sarah Powell, Lilah Nichols, Eva Johnson and Gabby Johnson

Front row (left to right): Rebekah Loghry, James Nichols, Ben Peterson, Daniel and Ashley Kountz

The Canadian missionaries include: Lisa Neufeld (chaperone), Arlee Petkau, Hayley Petkau, Caleb Martens, and Evan Martens

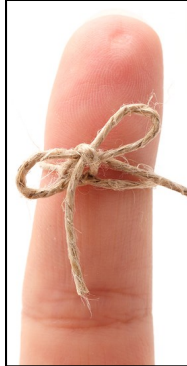
Any of the participants who have the same last names are siblings (except Daniel and Ashley who are married). The majority of the youth fall into the 15-19 year old range with a few young 20s (Hannah, Sarah, Brandon, and Gabby).

Please pray for these missionaries July 8th-24th as a group or individually; pray that they will see Jesus in the people they are serving, and that those being served will see Jesus in our friends. Pray that the missionaries will be enriched by their service.



Calendar of Events for July

Dates to Remember for July



Tuesday, July 4, Church Office Closed, Happy 4th of July
 Monday, July 10, 5:00 p.m. Day School Board Meeting
 Monday, July 10, 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
 Saturday, July 8, 10:00 a.m. Safety Team Meeting
 Sunday, July 9, 8:00 a.m. Methodist Men Meeting
 Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. Crafting with Christ
 Sunday, July 16, 11:15 a.m. Administrative Council Meeting
 Thursday, July 20, 9:00 a.m. Games in the Deen Building

Happy Birthday!

Trinity Hulsey	7/6	Philip McDonald	7/24
FG Hardy	7/7	Les Whitaker	7/26
Carol Miracle	7/8	Rev. David Cartwright	7/26
Ernie Fields	7/10	Chris Baldwin	7/27
Marissa Fields	7/10	Mike Williams	7/27
Betty Cartwright	7/11	Sherry Moore	7/28
Larry Heckman	7/12	Ron Butler	7/28
Judith Hollister	7/13	Marsha Matthews	7/28
Jacob Rowland	7/22	Susie Heckman	7/29
Marie Shastid	7/23	Betty Briggs	7/30
Arthur Galope, Sr.	7/23	Mike Cade	7/30

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.

Our Presence and Our Gifts

	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
Worship	100	88	100	91
Giving	\$8,234.00	\$4,996.00	\$5,300.00	\$3,657.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	3	4 Happy Independence Day!! Church Office Closed	5	6	7	8 10:00 am Safety Team
9 8:00 am Methodist Men Meeting 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	10 5:00 pm Day School 6:00 pm Finance	11	12 6:00 pm Choir Practice	13	14	15 9:00 am Crafting with Christ
16 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Admin Council Meeting	17	18	19 6:00 pm Choir Practice	20 9:00 am Games in the Deen Building	21	22
23 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service <hr/> 31 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	24	25	26 Pastor Dave's Birthday 6:00 pm Choir Practice	28	29	30

Youth Mission Project

The youth want to help members of our community by providing hygiene health kits for the blessing box. If you have sample sizes of shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, toothpaste, or other hygiene items with the exception of toothbrushes (we have plenty) we would love for you to donate them to us. We plan on grouping items into ziplock bags for those in need to take from the blessing box. You can drop off any donated items in the boxes for the Angel Tree. One is located in the Deen building and the other is located in the narthex of the church.



Youth Group in Action

The youth group headed out to Crestwood assisted living and had a great time serving lunch to the residents. The youth would like to thank all of the people that helped make this event possible.



Remember in Prayer:

Family of Sammy Savage
Family of Scott McKay
Family of Bill Hedges
Family of Sandra Howard
Family of Keeta Lybrand
Family of Lawson White
Family of Richard Briley
Arthur Galope, Jr.
Alice Kolb
Betty Manning
Billie Cade
Bobbie Kennedy
Bruce Evers
Chad Ash
Charles & Wynona James
Cheryl Bradley
Cheryl & David Shaw
College Students
Crestwood Nursing &
Assisted Living

Darian Richardson
Darlene Kelley
Denny McCormick
Eric Johns
Fausto Sanchez
Harrison Mayone
Helen Liston
Inez Wade
Isaac Bullard
Revival at Asbury College
Jared McDonald
Jeff D'Amico
Jenny Bell Robertson
Jim & Sandra Smith
Justin Baas
Kristin Jackson
Marigrace & Mike Lang
Margie Arehart
Margie Evers
Mark Brown
Marty Mitchell
Mary Bullard

Mission Trip for GFA World
Phillip Young
Randy Scott
RMMC Staff
Robert Butts
Robin & Lorelai
Rosa Davis
Sasha Webster
Scrub
Shirley Reed
Students, Teachers, &
Administrators
Sunday School & Church
Travis Deen
William Moore



Memorials

In memory of
Lawson White
Given by
Staci Bratcher and the Rayburn Electric Coop,
Fritz Gilbreth, FG & Becky Hardy,
Jim & Barbara Lamb.

In memory of
Keeta Lybrand
Given by
Dr & Mrs Charles Johnson, Linda & Tommy
Malone, Molly Castleberry,
Nancy Teel & Reagan, Angela & Jake,
And Fritz Gilbreth.

Thank You Notes

Thank you for the blanket. I appreciate the love
and support you've always given me.
Thanks so much,

Hayden Wilcoxson.

RMMC,
Jim would have loved your flowers, they were
perfect.
Thank you so much for such a wonderful
contribution.

Barb, Angela, Norah and Sam (Lathem Family)

Russell Memorial Methodist Church

Rev. David Cartwright, Pastor
John Ross, Minister of Music
Vanna Duda, Pianist
Jackie Cockerham, Financial Administrator

Nancy McDonald, Office Administrator
Fritz Gilbreth, Organist
Theresa Turner, Ladies Hand Bells Director
Shane McBride, 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