

THE BROADCASTER

August 23, 2023

Pastor's Piece

I sometimes go to a fast-food restaurant – McDonalds or Wendy's or Burger King – to get a quick lunch. All fast-food restaurants have some special menus for children and they usually call them "Happy Meal." I think someone who invented Happy Meal for children was so brilliant. I look around at the people, especially children, at the restaurants and see them very happy to have a Happy Meal because it usually has children's favorite meal, drink, a toy, and some puzzles on the bag.

I thought to myself if we made a Happy Meal for adults what do you think we should include in the package? What do you think makes you happy? Think about that for a moment. To me I would be really happy if my burger is big and delicious and there is lots of fries. But I realize that 15 minutes of eating the meal the happy feeling would not last long. Then I find myself spending hours looking for happiness in other places. Where do you find your happiness?

The psalmist tells us where we can find real happiness. Psalm 1:1-3 says, "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night." Basically, what that means is you will find happiness if you delight in the law of the Lord. Someone who delights, someone who is happy, someone who is joyful, he or she finds blessing, he or she finds happiness in the Word of God. The Psalmist continues to say, "On his law they meditate day and night." We meditate on God, the goodness of God, the character of God, the faithfulness of God, the love of God, things that He has done to us, He has showed to us, the way God showed His love for us. Not only on Sunday but every day we meditate on it. "Hmmm, thank you Lord." There we find happiness.

Then verse three shows happy people do not depend on circumstance. It says, "They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper." This tree is planted by water so during hot and dry seasons like this summer, this particular tree will bear much fruit and prosper. Why? Because this tree has access to the source of living water. And the living water for Christians is our faith in God.

Friends, we will go through different seasons of life. Sometimes we go through the season of spring, sometimes we go through season of summer, fall, and winter.

Every one of us is subject to seasons. But those who believe in Jesus, those who love God, those who put their trust in Him, will prosper, their life will never be shaken, they will find happiness wherever they go.

I hope we will be like a tree, the tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he or she does prospers." That's the happy person.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ji



OUR PRAYERS FOR

Those Within the Church

Kevin Alpers, Dean Killen, the family of Vicki Stoner at her passing, Tammy Taylor, Tony Wilbur

Our Leaders

Law Enforcement Officers in our community and in the nation, the persecuted Christians around the world.
God's Guidance and Strength for President Biden, Our Troops and their Families

Our Military

† Michael Barbett – Darryl & Val Wall's son-in-law	† CPL Jay McDoniel
† CPL Cody Blair – Judy Lann's grandson	† Erik Nott & family – Doug & Gay Vannaman's son-in-law
† Dennis Burns Jr (DJ) – Dennis Burns Sr & Lisa Soetebier's son	† MSGT Leah Oakleaf – Walt & Janet Southards' granddaughter
† Lt. Col. Adam Coffman – Gladys Coffman's grandson	† SGT Steven Pearce – Walt & Janet Southards' nephew
† Kristopher Dewitt – Mary Stout's grandson	† Erik Ralsten
† Chance Greenhoff – Army	† CPL Bethany Reeves McDoniel
† James Harris (MP) – Bill & Joy Page's grandson	† AIC Bradley Southards – Walt & Janet Southards' grandson
† Austin Kroeger	† Joey Thiessen

Upcoming Study

Has anyone ever told you...You have permission to eliminate distractions! You have permission to live a more fulfilling life! Distractions cause more harm than you might think. And they're all around us, all the time. They can disrupt our focus on what really matters, interfere with our true priorities, and divert our attention from the God who created us for his good purpose. Bestselling author of *Love Does* Bob Goff has created this video Bible study to give you guidance in and joyful permission to:

- Identify the distractions in your life.
- Eliminate them so that you can recharge and refocus on your God-given purpose.
- Start living a less-distracted and more joy-filled and love-oriented life.

Distractions can get you stuck in the past, worried about the present, and frazzled by any future you could possibly fret over. It's time to discover how to get *undistracted* in all aspects of your life.

Pastor Ji will begin this five-week study on Wednesday, September 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Books are \$10. Contact the office to sign-up!



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|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 5 Lester Carey | 5 Olivia Wilbur | 6 Melinda Reeves |
| 8 Paul Wiebe | 11 Kathy Ditty | 11 Derek Dunn |
| 11 Rory Sadowsky | 12 Todd Kennedy | 12 Pat Postlethwait |
| 12 Ben Anderson | 12 Austin Southards | 14 Nathan Zane |
| 17 Rod Reeves | 17 Gordon Williams | 17 Kathy Pearson |
| 18 Joan House | 22 Eleanor Evans | 22 Christy Southards |
| 23 Ben Neaderhiser | 23 Michelle Zane | 23 Jane Smith |
| 27 Diane Bennett | 27 Connor Thatcher | 28 Austin Salas |
| 28 Logan Seacat | 30 Jamie Anderson | 30 Austin Thieme |



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| 9 Gregg & Cristi Howell | 11 Ben & Jamie Anderson |
| 17 Jeff & Kim Pritchard | 19 Bruce & Martha Campbell |
| 19 Brad & Debbie Edwards | 23 Mac & Dee McCallum |
| 26 Doug & Jodi Kirkland | 27 Walt & Janet Southards |
| 30 Marvin & Darlene Richards | |



September

WEEKLY:

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
Traditional Worship 9:00a	Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC		JOY Group 9:30a FS		Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC
Sunday School 10:00a	Progressive Class 7:00p FS		Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC		
Contemporary Worship 11:00a			Chancel Choir 5:00p SAN		
			WOW ZONE! 6:00p WCC/Basement		
			UMYF 6:00p FH/14B/15B		

SPECIAL:

Labor Day Church Office Closed Monday, September 4	Eat, Pray, Quilt...Whatever Friday, September 8 11:00 a.m. / WCC	Kick-Off Sunday Sunday, September 10
Second Grade Bible Presentation Sunday, September 17	Lunch & Learn / Abilene Thursday, September 21	Book Club Wednesday, September 27 6:00 p.m. / CR

SCOUTING GROUPS:

Adventure Crew First Mondays 6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 40021 First & Third Mondays 6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 40316 First & Third Mondays 6:00 p.m.
Boy Scout Troop 494 Mondays 7:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 40870 Tuesdays 6:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts Pack 494 Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.
	Girl Scout Troop 40037 First & Third Thursdays 7:15 p.m.	

fumcvc's GOINGS ON...

WOW ZONE! For kids ages 3 years old through 5th grade resumes **Wednesday, August 23** at 6:00 p.m. Please use Entrance C.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, September 4 for the Labor Day holiday.

Eat, Pray, Quilt...Whatever will meet **Friday, September 8** at 11:00 a.m. in the WCC. Please bring a craft to work on and a salad to share.

Our Stewardship Campaign will begin Sunday, September 17 and end Sunday, October 1. Watch for more information.

****UPDATE: THE BUS IS FULL**** Our September Lunch and Learn takes us to Abilene. We will leave at 8:30 a.m. on **Thursday, September 21** and should return about 4:00 p.m. Contact the office to get your name on the waiting list!

Branson Getaway – **November 1-3, 2023** – Bus trip through Village Tours. Highlights include The Oak Ridge Boys in concert and “Queen Esther” at the Sight and Sound Theatre. Contact the office for more details. Interested? Please call 1.800.333.0312 to book by phone or book online at vtravel.live/bransonvcumc. ***Reservations are due soon.***

2 Ways to Give

September's giving for Open Door and the Valley Center Food Pantry is peanut butter and jelly. **Donations can be brought to the middle foyer and put in the storage cabinet on the south wall.**

HOW CAN I HELP WHEN DISASTER STRIKES?

When disaster strikes anywhere in the world, many United Methodists want to know how they can help. The simplest answer is to go to <https://www.umcmission.org>. If there is a disaster of significant magnitude, United Methodist Global Ministries will place a link at the top of the page to donate to either the U.S. or International Disaster Response and Recovery fund, depending on where the disaster occurs.

By streamlining these disaster response funds into these two accounts, Global Ministries' United Methodist Committee on Relief is best positioned to offer the right support, in the right way, at the right time.

Giving money may seem impersonal. But when disaster strikes, whether natural or human-caused, funding is by far the most valuable, flexible, and useful resource to have on hand.

Some people want to do more. They may want to donate items or go and volunteer to help.

While these impulses are understandable and laudable, sending things not specifically requested does not help. And going into a disaster zone without the training and proper supervision to handle the situation at hand can slow down the needed work or endanger those who go and others also.

For US-related disasters, you can always send kits for basic relief to UMCOR's Sager-Brown Depot. When you do, be sure to follow the directions for each kit exactly so all kits are as identical as possible. This will help expedite their shipping to people in need in the US. UMCOR does not ship these kits for disasters outside the US.

Through UMCOR, United Methodists have one of the most effective, globally deployed relief networks on the planet. UMCOR and its partner, United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM), have trained thousands of volunteers for specific kinds of assistance. In cooperation with annual conference disaster response coordinators, UMVIM in each conference can deploy these trained volunteers where needed, especially within the United States.

After you have checked the Global Ministries website and donated money and/or supplies to UMCOR, keep checking with your annual conference disaster response website over the following weeks and months to learn when and what kind of volunteers or additional items may be needed. Just keep in mind UMCOR does not send volunteers across international borders.

To summarize, here are three simple rules.

1. Do no harm.

- a. Do not self-deploy or organize your own group trips to a disaster site, and do not send anything not specifically requested by UMCOR or other experienced relief organizations on the ground.

2. Do good.

- a. Give to UMCOR's relief funds or relief kits, knowing that UMCOR will make the best use of them with trusted partners on the ground.
- b. Go as a volunteer within your own country when your training and expertise match the request from your conference disaster coordinator.

3. Attend upon all the ordinances of God.

- a. Pray for those who have been impacted and for those who are on the ground to rescue, clear debris, and assess next steps.
- b. Fast, and donate what you would have spent on food for the meals you skipped to UMCOR.
- c. Search the scriptures to see how God has provided for people facing disaster.
- d. Engage in holy conferencing with others in your congregation and community about ways to respond to the current disaster and to improve your readiness for those that will come.

In these ways you can know what you want to offer when disaster strikes really helps when and where it's needed most.

This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications. <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-how-can-i-help-with-disaster-relief>

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS FOR THE FALL OF 2023

September 27, 2023 Pachinko | by Min Jin Lee | 479 pgs | \$6 Among New York Times Top Ten Books of the Year and National Book Award finalist, this novel details the four generations of an immigrant family as they fight to control their destiny in 20th-century Japan. When teenaged Sunja discovers she is pregnant—and her lover is married—she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through Korea on his way to Japan. But her decision sets off a dramatic saga that echoes through the generations. From bustling street markets to the halls of Japan’s finest universities to the pachinko parlors of the criminal underworld, Lee’s complex and passionate characters survive and thrive against the indifferent arc of history.

October 25, 2023 *Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World* | by Vivek H. Murthy | 352 pgs | \$10 In this groundbreaking book, the 19th surgeon general of the United States Dr. Vivek Murthy makes a case for loneliness as a public health concern: a root cause and contributor to many of the epidemics sweeping the world today—from alcohol and drug addiction to violence to depression and anxiety. Loneliness, he argues, is affecting not only our health, but also how our children experience school, how we perform in the workplace, and the sense of division and polarization in our society. His message underscores the importance of human connection, the hidden impact of loneliness on our health, and the social power of community.

November 15, 2023 *Cousins: Connected through Slavery, a Black Woman and a White Woman Discover Their Past – and Each Other* | by Betty Kilby Baldwin and Phoebe Kilby | 244 pgs | \$10 What happens when a White woman, Phoebe, contacts a Black woman, Betty, saying she suspects they are connected through slavery? Revealed to be cousins, they commit to a path of reconciliation. In alternating chapters, each tells her dramatic story, from Betty’s experience as one of the first Black children to attend her desegregated school to Phoebe’s eventual question to Betty: “How do I begin to repair the harms?” Piercingly honest, the book includes a working reparations project that the women conceived together.

December 20, 2023 *The Prodigal Prophet: Jonah and the Mystery of God’s Mercy* | by Timothy Keller | 270 pgs | \$11 The story of Jonah is one of the most well-known but most misunderstood parables in the Bible. In *The Prodigal Prophet*, pastor and New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller reveals the hidden depths within the book of Jonah. Keller makes the case that Jonah was one of the worst prophets in the entire Bible. And yet there are unmistakably clear connections between Jonah, the prodigal son, and Jesus. Keller provides an answer to the extraordinary conclusion of this biblical parable—and shares the powerful Christian message at the heart of Jonah’s story.

Everyone is welcome to join. We meet on the dates listed at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. The church has books for the prices listed. You can also find books online or at the library.





FALL KICK-OFF SUNDAY

Sunday, September 10

Sunday School at 10:00a

One Combined Worship Service at 11:00a

Congregation Photo at the End of the Service

Lunch at 12:00p in the WCC

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