

THE BROADCASTER

September 22, 2021

Pastor's Piece

I recently watched a video which was about a dying pastor. There was a moving scene where his wife and children sat around his deathbed reading the Word, praising, and praying. And the pastor gave his last words to the family. I was so moved by the pastor because I could see the race that this pastor has been running all throughout his life. I could see this pastor was praising God with his last breath and giving thanks to Him. Throughout the video, I was reminded of the scripture where Paul says to Timothy, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7) The pastor shows me what kind of road any pastor should run and how to finish the race.

There is a famous song called "My Way." It's been echoing in my mind lately. This pastor's final moment before death reminded me of two "My Ways." One is "My Way" sung by the Apostle Paul 2,000 years ago. And the other is "My Way" sung by Frank Sinatra several decades ago. Paul said to Timothy but he also said at the end of his life, "I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace." (Acts 20:24) Paul says this is my way. On the other hand there is another "My Way" from Sinatra where he sings,

"And now, the end is near
And so I face the final curtain
My friend, I'll say it clear
I'll state my case, of which I'm certain
I've lived a life that's full
I traveled each and every highway
And more, much more than this
I did it my way"

No doubt it's a wonderful song loved by so many people. As I was listening to the song, the last stanza "I did it my way" caught my special attention. Because that's what I say often times; "I am going to live it my way, not God's way." "I am going to do what I want to do." "I am going to make decisions that please me." "My way or the high way." Apostle Paul says, "Stop singing 'I did it my way' but rather start walking His Way. Run the race Jesus has given us." So at the end of his life Paul could declare, "I finished my task, the task of sharing the good news of God's grace, and kept my faith." This is the wonderful ending which reminds us how we should finish the race.

Dear friends, let's take a moment to examine yourself and ask whether you're singing Paul's "My Way" or Sinatra's "My Way." May the Lord bless us as we continue our life journey!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ji



OUR PRAYERS FOR

Those Within the Church

**The family of Ethel Bartel at her passing, Dean Dellinger, Marvin Hatch,
the family of Pat Houston at her passing, Scott and Ruth Martin**

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 Cody Blair – Judy Lann's grandson

† Dennis Burns Jr (DJ) – Dennis Burns Sr & Lisa Soetebier's son

† Lt. Col. Adam Coffman – Gladys Coffman's grandson

† Kristopher Dewitt – Mary Stout's grandson

† Chance Greenhoff – Army

† James Harris (MP) – Bill & Joy Page's grandson

† Austin Kroeger

† Sydney Lang – Navy

† SGT Bryant Leinen – Warren & Jeanne Leinen's grandson

† Erik Nott & family – Doug & Gay Vannaman's son-in-law

† SGT Steven Pearce – Walt & Janet Southards' nephew

† Erik Ralsten

† CPL Bethany Reeves

† David Ruckman – Roy & Linda McFarland's nephew

† AIC Bradley Southards – Walt & Janet Southards's grandson

† CMSAF Jeffrey Stockwell – Melissa Lampe Stockwell's husband

Sermon Series



We will begin a five-week sermon series on the book of Habakkuk. We're living in fearful and uncertain times, yet God's love and grace will carry us through our anxiety and worry as we trust Him. The prophet Habakkuk and his conversation with God can give us guidance for growing in faith in the midst of our worrisome days. Come join us as we hear the word and see in the book of Habakkuk the "Yet I Will Rejoice" and how God is always faithful.



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|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jim Boyd | 1 Helen LeBlanc | 2 Martha Underwood | 2 Sophie Girtz |
| 3 Martha Fransham | 3 Gwyneth Clark | 4 Jessica Strong | 4 Kathy Marshall |
| 5 Ted Schupp | 5 Jill Lipke | 7 Virginia Kerth | 7 Tracy Miracle |
| 7 Zane Devereaux | 8 Craig Bright | 9 Alan Joyal | 9 Leah Newfer |
| 9 Tara Newfer | 10 Shawn Williams | 10 Don Saylor | 12 Hailee Clark |
| 13 Tony Wilbur | 14 Anya Simms | 14 Chloe Schultz | 15 Kelly Taylor |
| 15 Tiffany Frazier | 17 Cameron Coons | 19 Walt Southards | 20 Stephanie Bartel |
| 20 Shawn Koch | 20 Bethany Lindstrom | 20 Tammy Taylor | 22 Charlie Anderson |
| 23 Kaitlyn Taylor | 23 Linda McCormick | 24 Jocelyn Knoblauch | 25 Gay Vannaman |
| 25 Macy Luce | 26 Robert Leewright | 26 Morgan Thatcher | 27 Betty Bogard |
| 27 Hannah Hall | 30 Kennedy Stamm | 30 Hannah Shelton | 31 Joleen Zivnuska |



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|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 David & Cris Brownlee | 2 Kevin & Emily Reamey | 3 Shawn & Lynn Williams |
| 5 Daryl & Vicky Gooch | 10 Randy & Pat Stone | 17 John & Roxanne Richerson |
| 22 Fred & Martha Underwood | 26 Don & Judie Myers | |

2 Welcome to our church family, Kylea Raines!





WEEKLY:

| SUNDAYS | MONDAYS | TUESDAYS | WEDNESDAYS | THURSDAYS | FRIDAYS |
|--------------------------------|---|----------|---|-----------|---|
| Traditional Worship 9:00a | Morning Exercise 8:30a | | Morning Exercise 8:30a | | Morning Exercise 8:30a |
| Sunday School 10:00a | | | JOY Group 9:30a | | |
| Contemporary Worship 11:00a | | | WOW ZONE! 6:00p | | |
| UMYF MS & HS 5:00p WCC | | | Chancel Choir 7:15p | | |

SPECIAL:

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| UMW Executive Board Monday, October 4 6:00p CR | Trustees Wednesday, October 6 6:00p FS | Fellowship & Missions Team Thursday, October 7 6:00p FS |
| Staff Parish Relations Committee Thursday, October 7 5:30p FS | Eat, Pray, Quilt...Whatever Friday, October 8 11:00a WCC | Finance Committee Tuesday, October 12 6:00p FS |
| Lunch & Learn / Harvey House Thursday, October 21 9:00a-3:00p | Administrative Church Council Thursday, October 21 6:00p FS | Book Club Wednesday, October 27 6:00p FS |
| College Care Packages Sunday, October 24 12:00p | | Church Conference Sunday, October 31 2:00p SAN |

FUMCVC's Stewardship Campaign



FUMCVC's Stewardship Campaign "Opening Our Doors into Tomorrow" will begin **Sunday, September 26**. Our stewardship campaign is a way to provide the financial resources to support mission and ministry for the upcoming year. Campaign packets will be available outside the sanctuary before and after both services on that day. Please return them to the church before **Sunday, October 10**.

College Care Packages

Do you have a kiddo in college? Could they use a monthly pick-me-up? **Sunday, September 26** at 12:00p, a group of parents will assemble care packages (please bring an individually wrapped snack for each of the packages), pray over those packages, and then you can mail it to your student. We will try to do this once a month. Please feel free to outreach to other parents that have college students that may not attend FUMCVC. Contact the office if you plan to participate so we know how to plan.



Book Club

Book Club will meet **Wednesday, September 29** at 6:00p in the Fireside Room. This month's book is *Hiding in the Light* by Rifqa Bary. The church can order books for you for a cost of \$10. Please contact the office if you would like a book ordered for you.

Monthly Mission Day

UMYF High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers are going to participate in a Monthly Mission. The first Sunday of most months, we will have a table set-up in the main foyer to accept donations for that month's mission project. Those donations will then be taken to the organization the next day. All of the organizations are local. Some are even in Valley Center. Please help as you feel led. October's giving is Halloween candy. The candy will be used to make treat bags for The Lord's Diner to distribute and for Valley Center's Trick-or-Treat Street. Candy can be brought to the church on **Sunday, October 3**. *Candy will be accepted until Friday, October 29*.

Main Street Valley Center's Finer Things Showcase

Thursday, October 21 at LeVenue from 6:00p-8:00p. MSVC's Finer Things Showcase is a way for Valley Center residents to show off their talents! The Showcase is open to artists, authors, musicians, photographers, sculptors, or craft artisans who reside in Valley Center. This is a chance to talk to the Artists and Authors about their work and discuss their creative process. There is no charge to the artists and authors who display their works (books or articles may be in or out of print), but participants must register in advance to be included. Admission to the event is free to the public. Amy Patrick Stamm is in charge of this event. If you would like to participate, please contact her.

ASK THE UMC

What is The UMC's view of Halloween?

The word "Halloween" (or "Hallowe'en") means "the evening of Hallows."

"Hallows" is an older English way of saying "saints" — so, the Evening of Saints.

But why "the evening?" Many ancient cultures in the Mediterranean world and the Middle East, including Jewish cultures, understood the day as beginning with sunset rather than sunrise. This is why Genesis one says, "And it was evening, and it was morning, day one." (Genesis 1:5). Because the day began with sunset, the first worship service of a given day would be the evening service.

Put it all together and Halloween refers to the first service of worship for All Saints Day. That day falls on November 1 in the Western Christianity. That's why All Saints Eve (Halloween) is observed on the evening of Oct. 31.

So where or how did this observance get connected to jack-o-lanterns, ghosts, things that go bump in the night, and trick or treating? That connection comes from popular festivals already happening in many cultures worldwide to celebrate the midpoints between a solstice and an equinox, sometimes referred to as "cross-quarter days." Some cultures understood these as transition times where the lines between realms may become the thinnest.

The Celtic festival of Samhain fell at the cross-quarter day between autumn and winter, between warmth and cold, between harvest and dormancy for the earth, and so, metaphorically, between life and death.

Christian missionaries and bishops, particularly in England and parts of Western Europe, had concerns that some of these practices and beliefs ran counter to the Christian understanding of the resurrection of the dead. The church, beginning in the eighth century, added prayers to Christian masses remembering the dead and anticipating their resurrection. These were some of the first prayers connected to celebrations later known as All Saints Day (November 1) and All Souls Day (November 2).

All Saints included prayers for those the church had specifically designated as saints because of their particularly holy lives pointing dramatically to Christ at work in them. All Souls included prayers for all within the church who had died within the past year.

United Methodists and most Protestants have no "official saints." Thus, we usually combine All Saints and All Souls into a single observance. This celebration in the church accents our understanding of holiness in this life and our hope for resurrection in the age to come.

Cultural Halloween celebrations in the communities in which many of us live have continued to evolve alongside the church celebrations. Many local churches offer safe alternatives to traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating. Others focus more on giving than receiving. Collecting for UNICEF or giving Fair Trade chocolate are ideas for using the occasion to "treat" or give to others.

These activities need not be seen as either defining or limiting the Christian observance of All Saints. Our role in the church is to proclaim our own witness to what makes for holiness (becoming one of the "hallows") in this life, and our hope for the resurrection of the dead and the fullness of life in the new creation in the age to come.



<https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-what-is-the-united-methodist-churchs-view-of-halloween>

ASK THE UMC

All Saints Day: A holy day John Wesley loved
November 1 is All Saints Day, a sometimes-overlooked holy day in United Methodist congregations. It is not nearly as well known as the day before, All Hallows' (Saints') Eve, better known as Halloween, but is far more important in the life of the church.

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it "a festival I truly love." On the same day in 1788, he writes, "I always find this a comfortable day." The following year he calls it "a day that I peculiarly love."

This may sound odd. United Methodists don't believe in saints. Right?

Well, yes... and no.

Wesley cautioned against holding saints in too high regard. The Articles of Religion that he sent to the Methodists in America in 1784, include a statement against "invocation of saints" (Article XIV—Of Purgatory, Book of Discipline ¶104). Wesley did not see biblical evidence for the practice and discouraged Methodists from participating.

However, he also advised against disregarding the saints altogether.

In an All Saints Day journal entry dated Monday, November 1, 1756, Wesley writes, "How superstitious are they who scruple giving God solemn thanks for the lives and deaths of his saints!" If your 18th century English is as rusty as mine, it might help to know that the word scruple means, "to be unwilling to do something because you think it is improper, morally wrong, etc." (Merriam-Webster.com).

Those to glory gone

All Saints Day is an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. It is a time to celebrate our history, what United Methodists call the tradition of the church.

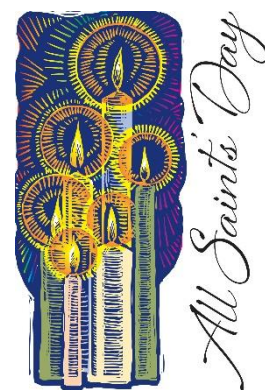
From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists of not only all living believers, but also all who have gone before us. For example, in Hebrews 12 the author encourages Christians to remember that a "great cloud of witnesses" surrounds us encouraging us, cheering us on.

Charles Wesley, John's brother, picks up on this theme in his hymn that appears in our United Methodist Hymnal as "Come, Let Us Join our Friends Above," #709. In the first verse, he offers a wonderful image of the Church through the ages: *Let saints on earth unite to sing, with those to glory gone, for all the servants of our King in earth and heaven, are one.*

On All Saints Day we remember all those—famous or obscure—who are part of the "communion of saints" we confess whenever we recite The Apostles' Creed. We tell the stories of the saints "to glory gone."

Thanks be to God for the lives of his saints.

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/all-saints-day-a-holy-day-john-wesley-loved>



Lunch & Learn

We had such fun at our last Lunch and Learn that we're going to do it again! Mike Neal has offered to drive a group to the Harvey House in Florence, KS on **Thursday, October 21**. We will take a tour of the house, eat lunch at the Flint Hills Market & Bakery, and then tour Prairie Oaks Designs. The group will leave FUMCVC at 9:00a and should return about 3:00p. The only cost for this trip is your meal (\$6-\$10) and anything you purchase. If you would like to join us, please contact the office!



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