

August
2020

Jefferson⁺town *United Methodist Church*

10219 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, KY 40299 Ph: 502-267-1437

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“A Wish Come True”



THE PASTOR PONDERS

And Ponders and Ponders, Poor Guy!

Delight thyself in the Lord; and He shall give you the desires of your heart. —Psalm 37:4

I guess many of us have long been fascinated with making wishes. From our youngest days we are provided any number of ways in which one can make a wish come true. I tried to think of a few of these, and decided to “google” a list of ways. Here’s some of my findings

- Birthday candles (blow out all candles in one breath)
- Star at night (some say any star, others say only a shooting star)
- Wishing well (tossing in a penny and wishing before it hits the water)
- Blowing dandelions (close eyes and blow all white stuff off in one breath)
- Eyelash falls out (place eyelash on the back of hand, close eyes and blow)
- Pinkie wishes (say same thing at same time as another, then lock pinkies)
- Turkey wishbone (dry out the bone, pull to see who gets their wish)

I saw a few other things listed that I had never heard of for making wishes. Can you add one or two to my list from your childhood (or do you know a variation of one I’ve listed)? Whichever is your preferred manner, somebody get busy and wish this agonizing Covid-19 stuff away!

Of course, I’m not certain that God is beholden to a wish called upon by a star, penny or candle. I do know that God has hopes for us—more than that, plans even! Jeremiah 29:11 reveals this as fact and I count it as true. God wants fulfillment for each of us. That’s more than mere happiness.

The Psalmist affirms that having an abiding relationship with God is all we need in life. “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” This awful virus is not the only pandemic thing around—so is God’s love! It is everywhere and for all people. Now that’s something to celebrate any time.

For this reason, I prefer to dwell on the first part of Psalm 37:4. Because our loving God is so good, we are able to immerse ourselves in His glory. We can choose to take delight in the Lord, whether we feel things are always going our way or not (spoiler: they won’t).

Taking delight in the Lord is an action born of choice. It means we find in God everything that we may need to find lasting joy and fulfillment. It is to run out in a rainstorm and become thoroughly drenched (but with the Spirit). We are saturated with God’s glory and presence, and that means we are lifted up beyond life’s mundane ways.

I’m not saying don’t look for a few dandelions here and there to blow! I am just saying, wishing this virus away (as well as the other struggles we have) will not solve the problem. Committing our way to the Lord will. Take some time this week to delight in the Lord and see if things don’t look up some!

Working together with you to build the Kingdom of God until Jesus returns *Bro. Bob*

In-House Worship Suspended

Bishop Fairley sent out an email on July 23rd, requesting adherence to Governor Beshear's request to suspend "in-house" worship for two weeks, which would be the last Sunday in July and the first Sunday in August. We are complying with the request and not having "in-house" worship, but posting video worship services for those two Sundays. Please understand that the times in which we're living creates a very fluid situation for rules on gatherings, and as always, safety is first. Look for the videos on YouTube at Jeffersontown Worship, and hopefully we can **plan to have our service again in the sanctuary August 9th at 10:00 AM.** If you have any questions or concerns, please call Bro. Bob on his cell phone at (502) 819-1160.

Mountain Mission Pickup-Monday, August 3rd

Donations accepted now through noon on Monday, August 3rd (boxed, if possible). Place in the foyer off the parking lot. **Urgent Needs:** Mens & children's summer clothes & shoes; socks & underwear for all ages; Good pots & pans; Good used furniture. **Processing Plant Needs:** Latex Gloves, Rubber Bands, 16 oz. coffee cups, Sugar, Aerosol Air Fresheners, 33 gallon & 13 gallon garbage bags, Pinesol, Dust Mops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner & Toilet Tissue. And, of course, all the other good and usable items you donate to the Mission!



Get On The Jesus Train! is our online VBS theme for this year. Children through 5th grade are welcome to participate! Children will watch YouTube videos from home that will include interaction with: crafts, activity sheets & music. Lessons for this 3-day event will focus on: Loving God, Loving Others & Loving Ourselves.

► Box mailed to each child which will contain

- welcome letter to this year's VBS
- 3 days of lessons, activities and song sheets
- craft supplies for 3 days (different project for each day)
- stickers and album to fill
- a special train whistle and conductor's hat

► Video on YouTube each day with

- personal greeting and intro on daily theme
- songs performed for the kids to sing along
- short devotion for children to listen to
- simple prayer time for children to join in
- daily closing time inviting them back

Remember—it's all about the kids and finding creative ways to reach out during this pandemic!

Help Needed With Food Ministry

We have pickup persons for our KFC & Starbucks food ministry program, but are in need of persons to deliver the food, once we have it at the church, to our homebound persons and others. If you would be willing to make an occasional food delivery, please contact the church office or Bro. Bob so we can set up a schedule.

Church Staff

Pastor-Rev. Bob Howell-cell#502-819-1160

Email: ukyhowell@gmail.com;

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator-

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Children's Ministry Coordinator-

Kara Mattingly-cell#270-505-9519

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Pianist-Patsy O'Neal-cell#502-930-5357

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Secretary-Teresa Allen*

Email: churchoffice@jtownumc.org

Nursery Attendant-Jessica McNeill*

Child Development Center Director-

Jennifer Webster-Ph# 502-261-2867;

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*Please call the church (502-267-1437) to reach these staff members.

Worship and Music Ministry

In thinking about what to share this month I decided to look for something fresh, from outside our box. It seems to me that we can easily get stuck in a rut, even in our unusual times of mixing smaller worship presentations with online worship. Will we get back to full pews, with choir, praise team and bell choir? Literally Lord knows when! From this writer below you will see his top 5 favorite examples of worship. Notice how few characters are involved in each of these Biblical stories.

Today's guest post is from Tom Curley. Tom is the Christian Arts Pastor and Lead Worshipper at Northridge Church in Pensacola, FL

As I read the Bible, I am amazed at the different ways that people have expressed their worship to God. In most churches, worship is usually expressed in singing accompanied by instruments. As a worship leader and musician, I began to search the scriptures for amazing expressions of worship that fit this definition of worship.

One good example would be the dedication of the temple as recorded in 2 Chronicles 7:1-6. With huge choirs singing, the Levites playing their instruments, and the priests playing their trumpets, surely this must be the greatest worship service in the Bible. But after more consideration, it did not even make my top 5.

The following are my picks for the 5 greatest expressions of worship in the Bible.

5. Paul and Silas Singing In The Prison: Acts 16:24-26-Surprisingly, this is my only choice that includes singing. However, this is no ordinary song service. Considering that this duet was coming from two men who were beaten, bruised, and in shackles, their worship was pure, heartfelt, and honest. This song caught heaven's attention and when God started tapping his foot to the music, amazing things happened. *When we are faced with trials and hardships, let's remember that Satan may buffet our bodies but he can't imprison our praise!*

4. The Woman With The Alabaster Box: Luke 7:36-50-Some of the greatest worship can come from the most unlikely source. This woman was an outcast who had been used and abused. But something about the words and actions of Jesus caused her to bring her most valuable possession and pour it out in an expression of love and worship. In one moment, she pressed through fear, prejudices, shame, and created one of the most intimate moments of worship in the Bible. *When man's opinion has declared us "guilty", there is One who can be touched by our worship and forgive our sins!*

3. The Widow's Mite: Mark 12:41-44-This simple act of giving an offering in the temple caught the attention of our Lord. It wasn't how much she gave, but, rather, how much it cost her personally that moved Jesus to say, "She gave more than anyone else." *What moved this woman to give everything she had to God remains a mystery, but what is clear is that God considers our giving an act of worship.*

2. Abraham's Willingness to Sacrifice His Son, Isaac: Genesis 22:12-14-This act of worship ranks second in my list even though there were no instruments, singing, lighting, or sound system involved. Abraham pleased the Lord, and went on to change the world, because of obedience. *Obedience is something we usually only mention to small children or when referencing our pet's training. However, obedience, in the eyes of God, is even greater than any sacrifice or gift we could give Him. It may be that our own greatest act of worship may not happen on Sunday morning but on Thursday afternoon, when God whispers to us, "Tell the cashier who's ringing up your groceries that I love her". God grant us the grace to begin obeying the promptings of the Holy Spirit. In obedience, we will reach new heights in our worship experiences.*

1. Jesus' Surrender to God's Will: Luke 22:41-43-On the evening of his arrest, Jesus prayed for another option, if possible, than the cross. But then, he uttered the most amazing worship statement ever known when he said, "Not my will, but yours". This statement of complete and total surrender from the lips of my precious Savior humbles me and makes me love Him even more. *Yes, I will keep singing songs of praise and playing music on instruments but I also hope that I can begin to step into the deeper realms of worship that are found in giving, sacrifice, and surrender.*

Blessings ~ Michael musicianmichael@bellsouth.net

Native American Ministries

(one of the United Methodist Special Sunday offerings)

We will receive this special offering on Sunday, August 16th. Donations for Native American Ministries helps educate Native American seminarians and empowers Native American outreach. An insert (with envelope attached) will be included in the bulletins on August 16th. Please prayerfully consider a generous offering.

UMW Circle

The Willard Circle of the United Methodist Women will not meet in August. Watch your weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter for the date of the next UMW “in-person” meeting.

Community Blood Drive-Wednesday, August 26th

Held at the Jeffersonian (in the Kentucky Room), 10617 Taylorsville Road, 2-6 PM. To schedule an appointment, go to: redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor keyword: jeffersontownpolicelouky or call 1-800-REDCROSS.

Thank You

Thanks to Jerry & Evie LaDue and Latney & Jean Ramsey for volunteering to make the Starbucks pickups each week!

Christian Love and Sympathy to . . .

. . . family & friends of Jeannette (Mrs. Eugene) Smith, who died June 7th in Phoenix, AZ. Her daughter is Sharon Mattingly. The funeral was June 19th in Corbin, KY.

Memorials Received

A memorial donation was received from Cheryl Boss in memory of:

Ann Adkins, Anne Hayes, Tiva Frank, Jim Johnson, Regena Foster & Darrell Hicks

Statistical Reports

Date	Attendance	General Offering
7/5/2020	56	\$4,245.00
7/12/2020	51	\$7,840.36
7/19/2020	50	\$6,368.00

Total July General Offering

\$18,453.36 (3 weeks)

Special Offerings

Peace With Justice=\$67.00

As a Member of Jeffersontown United Methodist Church, you pledged to faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

(The U.M. Hymnal, pg 38)

Donations Other Than Tithe-The Tellers request that you please write a separate check for donations to the church other than your tithe (such as: Capital Fund, COVID-19, Holiday offerings, etc.), made payable to the church.

Charitable Donations-The JUMC Administrative Council voted to not distribute or endorse requests for donations to charities outside The United Methodist connection.

Pre-Paying Your Pledge-There are tax advantages for persons age 70 & ½ and older who are required to make annual withdrawals from their IRA (if you donate money from that account to the church). Several church members have done that in the past. If you'd like more information, call Lee Hart so he can explain the process & tax advantages 502-267-8066 (wk); 502-254-1682 (home).

Jeffersontown Area Ministries

J.A.M. is always in need of any non-perishable foods as well as any type of hygiene or house-hold products. Below is an idea of desperately needed items.

Food Items: Hamburger/Tuna/Chicken Helper Meal Mixes; Macaroni and Cheese (with ready pouch); Shelf-stable Microwave Meals (Hormel/Dinty Moore, etc.); Hearty Soups, Canned Chili, Lipton/Hormel Rice or Noodle Side Dish Packages; Jelly; Snacks for children.

Hygiene/Household Items: Tooth Brushes; Toothpaste; Soap/Body Wash; Shampoo/Conditioner; Deodorant; Small Laundry Detergent; Small Dish Soaps; Diapers (all sizes, but especially 2T-5T pull-ups); Baby Wipes; Lotion; Paper Towels.

Donations of any of the above items may be placed in the JUMC office, or taken directly to J.A.M. (10617 Taylorsville Road) week days between the hours of 10 AM and 2 PM.

The J.A.M. wagon was moved when the renovation began in the Gathering Area. **It will be placed in the foyer off the parking lot (new permanent location) after the Mountain Mission pickup is made on August 3rd.**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

(Anniversaries marked with an asterisk)

8/5-Bart Magill
8/7-*Rogers & Marilyn Queen
8/9-Gladys Stanton
8/9-*Paul & Lori Burczyk
8/15-Susie Smith
8/18-Ree Ingram, Bob Howell
8/19-Derek Nutt
8/22-*Jerry & Norma Littlefield
8/24-Doris Duncan
8/28-Kiera Westfall
8/29-Makayla Parker
8/31-Aleah Scamihorn
9/3-*Lee & Kay Hart
9/4-Claudia Zeckner
9/5-Melinda Rabuzzi

Continuing Ministries

- **Harvest Food Program** (in partnership with KFC and Starbucks)-Twice weekly pick ups of chicken and biscuits from KFC and sandwiches, bakery items & “grab and go” meals from Starbucks, which are being distributed to our homebound and others.
- **Coca Cola Codes for Red Bird**-Found on Coca Cola bottle caps, and the end flaps of cardboard carton multi-packs. Place in the Campbells Soup tin in the Gathering Area.
- **Mask Ministry**-Face masks made by church members. If you wish to contribute material or finished masks, please drop these off at the church office.
- **Water Step**-New or gently used shoes. Proceeds from the sale of these shoes help to provide clean water worldwide. Place in collection box in foyer off parking lot.
- **Laundromat Ministry**-Quarters collected will be used to pay laundry fees for patrons at a nearby laundromat soon.

Give for Good Louisville for Lighthouse Academy at Newburg

Thursday, September 17th, from 12:00 AM until 11:59 PM (one day of online giving).

Donations will be matched! The first \$1,000.00 will be matched 5 times; the next \$1,500.00 will be matched 4 times; the next \$2,500.00 will be matched 3 times, and the next \$5,000.00 will be matched 2 times. So please plan now to give! On September 17th, go to:

www.giveforgoodlouisville.org/ and in the search box type Lighthouse. Click on it; then the donate button; make your donation by credit card (minimum \$10). Let all your friends know and ask them to donate!