



weekly Chatter

May 12, 2024

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WORSHIP UPDATE

This Sunday, May 12th, we hear Jesus' question, **"What do you live for?"** In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus offered the observation that where our treasure is, there we would also find our heart (Matthew 6:21). So, what guides your life? How do you, as Eugene Peterson puts it, **"take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering"** (Romans 12:1). We'll explore that and more this Sunday, and we hope you'll join us. Don't forget to hug your Mama, and better yet, bring her to church. We'll follow our normal morning pattern, **intercessory prayer time at 9:15 a.m., small groups at 11:11 a.m. Youth will resume with a digital scavenger hunt on May 19th.** See you here.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

WRAP-UP. On Friday, May 3rd the 2024 edition of the 2020 General Conference wrapped up its work, worship and fellowship. Now comes the part of living into the decisions made. Over the course of two weeks, the delegates undertook much. There were, as I trust you have heard, **changes made to The Book of Discipline and revisions to The Social Principles.** A budget (much smaller) was approved for the work of the connectional church **for the next quadrennium,** bishop's retirements and allotments were approved. **Ordained deacons were given sacramental authority** in their ministry context. A **plan to regionalize** and make our global church less U.S.

centric was approved. **Historic moments** included Bishop Tracy S. Malone, resident bishop of the East Ohio Conference, becoming the **first Black female president of the Council of Bishops** on April 30, 2024. And Bishop David Wilson, resident bishop of the Great Plains Conference, becoming the **first Native American bishop to preside over the General Conference** on April 25, 2024.

I am grateful that I got to attend and volunteer as did Pastor David and Sara. The event was an international gathering with elements of family reunion and camp meeting thrown in. I also recognize, that the most pressing question will be **so how does this affect me and mine?** *"I am confident that this conference did nothing but provide St. Andrew's sure and sound footing to continue its ministry well into the future."* **The United Methodist Church continues** to share common mission and values. The United Methodist Church remains anchored in scripture and committed to discipleship. We celebrate that our church transcends geography, borders, barriers and differences. And that The United Methodist Church is **diverse and capable of serving ALL people.** I encourage you to continue to pray for the delegates as they make their way home, and for the work that was either furthered or started. Nourish Up (formally Loaves and Fishes) and the families it serves continues to need our response to the district food drive. Our church leadership (lay and clergy) need our

prayers and support. **Please be aware that there will be much misinformation and disinformation available.** I trust you already know that my door is always open (as is Pastor David's) and we agree to listen and grow together. We'll also post summaries (trust me you'll need them) as they become available. Thanks for your continued care and discernment.

~Pastor Sherri

CONDOLENCES.

Please be in prayer for **Ann Whichard** and family on the passing of her husband **Harvey Whichard** on Monday, April 29th. **A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, May 11th, at noon in the Sanctuary,** with visitation to follow in the Commons Room (#1) at 1:00 p.m.




JULIE THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

is awarded each spring to a graduating high school senior who is either a St. Andrew's church member or a participating member of the senior high youth program. Requirements include plans to enter a college this fall and a 3.5 weighted GPA. Applications can be found online at: https://www.standrewsumc.com/uploads/1/2/3/2/12323833/2023_julie_thomas_scholarship_app_pkt.pdf or in the church office. See Dave Johnson if you have any questions. **Application deadline is Saturday, May 25th.**



MAY Birthdays
 12 Larry Collins
 20 Mary Anne Smith


WORSHIP SERVICE
MAY 12, 2024
 9:15 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Service #30
 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary "What do you live for?" *Mark 8:34-38*
 11:11 a.m. Small Group Gathering

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday-Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Closed on Friday.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS
MAY 19, 2024
 Room #17 and Hybrid
 Trustee Meeting 12:30p.m.
 SPRC 3:00 p.m.
 Finance Committee 4:30pm

GIVE ONLINE/OFRENDAR EN LINE.

 Our QR code will take you to **SECURE GIVING/** **Nuestro código QR lo llevará a DONACIONES SEGURAS.**

CLANCY DOWLESS MEMORIAL FUND

This Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th, St. Andrew's UMC is invited to participate in supporting the



Clancy Dowless Memorial Fund.

Clancy's parents, Norma and Jimmy, as well as brothers, Brian and Anthony, are longtime members of this community. Gifts to the fund support the Barnabas ministry of Camp Tekoa, an annual week-long camp designed for adults with developmental disabilities. In scripture, Barnabas is known for showing great kindness to the apostle Paul and his Hebrew name translates to "son of encouragement." Your support will provide camper scholarships and camp upgrades for this important and special ministry. So, be a Barnabas! Through your financial support, you can extend encouragement and kindness to Tekoa's exceptional campers and continue Clancy's witness of the same.

PROCTORS NEEDED

Montclair Elementary School is in need of volunteer proctors for end-of-grade testing on the mornings of **Friday, May 24th** and **Wednesday, May 29th**. Proctors help teachers monitor students during testing. Volunteering is easy and requires no prior experience. Visit <https://qrco.de/MESEOG2024> to find out more and sign up for a slot. Thanks for supporting Montclair!



Please bring your worn out, outgrown sneakers and give them a new life and help the church at the same time. **Got Sneakers** is an organization that collects used sneakers, recycles them, and keeps them out of the landfill. They collect gently used and totally decrepit shoes. **PLEASE note this is athletic shoes only, primarily sneakers, but they will take worn**

hiking shoes as well. This is for sneakers for all ages, children, youth, and adults. This is a win for the environment and helps us to be better stewards of what God has given us. Please bring your donations to the green bins in the Narthex across from the Sanctuary. I would like to send our first bag by August 31st.

~Deborah Hemenway



IF YOU GAIN
the whole world
BUT LOSE YOUR
own soul?

MARK 8:36, NLT

Dahlia Grove

Invites you to an
"Art in the Garden Party"
Sunday, May 19, 2024
at the home of Jane and Chip Stout
238 Wonderwood Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28211

We are excited about our first art and garden party to benefit Dahlia Grove. Come enjoy appetizers, wine, and beer as you view and purchase fabulous art. There will be music and live artists as well. Dahlia Grove is a justice enterprise seeking to empower and employ survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and addictions. We do this by providing a two-year rent free restorative care home where they are given the time and resources to heal. We believe that LOVE is the most powerful force for change in the world. Come be a part of the transformative power of love.

www.DahliaGrove.org

