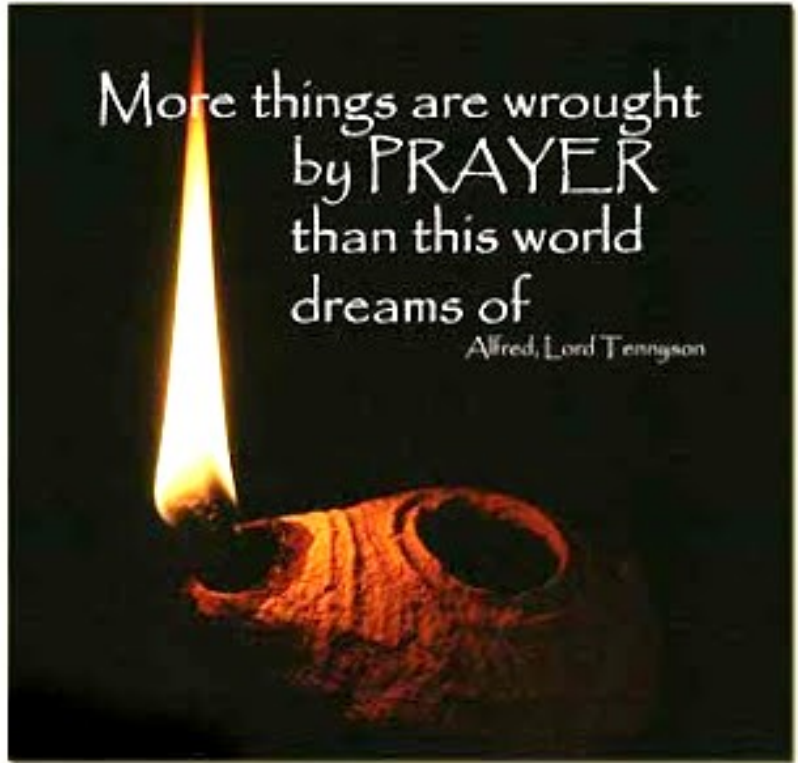


July 24, 2016

10:15 a.m.

Worshipping God Together



MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Good morning and Happy
Summer Sunday.

The focus of Jesus' parable today is about continuing in prayer. Consider these thoughts related to the purpose of prayer. *It has been said that the world is always looking for better methods, God is looking for better people. People are God's method. What the world needs is people whom God can use, who are mighty in prayer. The Spirit doesn't flow through tactics and plans. The Spirit flows through people who stay constant in prayer.*

So – what would it mean for you to “up” your prayer game?

PRELUDE

Song of Creation

Joyce Keedy

Words are at the end of the service

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* indicates we stand (as you are able)

Please silence your phone

Bold type indicates we read in unison.

UMH is the red United Methodist Hymnal.

TFWS is The Faith We Sing, the small black Hymnal.

Visitors and members, adults, youth, and children: please register your attendance on the green cards.

Worship begins as you enter the Sanctuary. Greet your neighbors, welcome visitors and guests, and sense the presence of the community of faith that surrounds us.

*GREETING

L) Creator God, how great is your name!

P) All creation sings of your glory, and so do we!

L) Even infants join stars and moon in singing your praise.

P) How Great is your name in all the earth!

*HYMN

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

OPENING PRAYER

As the sun rises, so do our prayers to you, O God. Our hearts are full of praise because of your wonderful works. You prosper and sustain us so that we can be of service to one another and those around us. Come Holy Spirit, come. Let us put our worries to the side, so that we can see you. Help us worship God in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 18: 1-18

CHILDREN'S TIME

Cathy Anderson

Children age 3 (before 1/1/16) to age 6 are excused to Room 314.

*HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

UMH 452, stanzas 1, 2, & 3

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church

UMH 884

COMMUNITY PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Your offering and green attendance card will be collected during the following offertory music.

Offertory

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Traditional, arr. Joyce Keedy

*Presenting Our Gifts

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

SERMON

"What Good is Prayer?"

Rod Miller

REFLECTION — Today you are invited to pray for someone who you would not normally pray for and for your heart to be open to this person.

REFLECTION SONG

Through It All

UMH 507

*HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

TFWS 2197

*SENDING FORTH

Ushers are Tom Cummings' team. Greeters are Nancy & Ken Klueh.

Joyce Keedy, organist & accompanist

A contribution to Paul's Flowers on the Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Paul Wagner by Doris and family.

The Spire is illuminated in the evening this week to the glory of God and in memory of Harvey Refo by Dot's Hope Happens Friends and in loving memory of Charles A. Crabbin by his wife Nancy and his daughter.

Song of Creation — from GOD OUR CREATOR, copyright 2013 by Joyce Keedy

Brightness and warmth of the sunshine tell of the glories of God,
Star-sprinkled skies of the heavens scatter His praises abroad.
Echoes from Eden's awakening are borne on a heavenly wind,
Creation is praising its Maker, and I must surely join in.

Forests, majestic high mountains, moon that is keeping its course,
Rivers and fresh running fountains, flow back toward their life-giving Source,
Waves that arise on the ocean, beautiful skies burnished blue,
Sing to the Lord their devotion, and I would worship Him, too.

Apricot glow of the dawning, fresh world with crystalline dew,
Beautiful light of the morning, tell of His mercies anew,
And the refreshing rain showers, washing the shiny world clean,
Rainbows, green plants and all flowers, sing to their great holy King.

Cathedral deep hush of the forest, pierced through with gold shafts of the sun,
Join in the swelling sweet chorus of praise to the great Holy One,
Creation is singing its love song to God its Creator sublime,
Forever the anthem shall go on, forever His name glorify.

Orange-red sunsets bright blazing that burn as the daylight hours cease,
Lavender twilights amazing, clad with the evening's cool peace,
This is the song of creation, yet greater the song I embrace
For Jesus, my Lord, my salvation, wraps me in His mantle of grace.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP AT TOWSON

8:15 AM Traditional Service in the Chapel. This service has communion every Sunday and usually piano or organ accompaniment.

10:15 AM *Worshipping God Together* in the Sanctuary. This service is blended and richly varied. About twice a month we open with contemporary songs led by our praise band. And, about twice a month we are more traditional, with one of these Sundays including an old-fashioned-hymn-sing. Every Sunday, we hear from the 3,000 pipes of our glorious organ. Communion is offered on the first Sunday of the month, and is open to all.

We have gluten-free bread, too, just ask the server.

Welcome to Towson United Methodist Church!

The MISSION of Towson United Methodist Church is to PLANT SEEDS of Christian faith by *equipping, training, supporting, and freeing* people to LIVE their faith in the world.

LEARN GREAT THINGS ABOUT GOD — DO GREAT THINGS WITH GOD

Towson United Methodist Church is a community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor. This is what we at Towson UMC believe Christian discipleship is, what we are to be, and what Jesus meant when he sent his followers to “make disciples:”

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God’s image. We commit to Jesus’ example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.

— *adopted by the TUMC Church Council, February 2, 2015*

- ✚ **INDIVIDUAL HEARING DEVICES** are available. Please ask an usher.
- ✚ In order for **CASH DONATIONS** to be recorded on your quarterly statement from the church, make sure your **FIRST & LAST** names are with the cash and in an envelope. Envelopes are available in the pews.
- ✚ **THE CRIBBERY: CARING FOR OUR LITTLE ONES** — We have wonderful paid caregivers in the Cribbery (Nursery) every Sunday for children age infant-3. Church members who have received Safe Sanctuary Training and a background check lovingly volunteer in the Cribbery each week.
- ✚ **CHILDREN’S PEW PACKS** are in colored tote bags, available in the Narthex and the Balcony.
- ✚ **DVD of this morning’s service** is available for a donation of \$2.00. Contact Cathy Anderson at 410-823-3689 or communications@towsonumc.org.
- ✚ Go to: <http://towsonprays.blogspot.com> to read prayers written by church members. If you could write a prayer for the blog once a month, please contact Rev. Margery Schammel mschammel@towsonumc.org or 410-823-2485.
- ✚ **Bearers of Christ's Light** — You are invited to come and participate in our gathering for contemplative prayer, which we are calling Attentional Prayer, every Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM in the chapel.
- ✚ **Flowers on the Altar and Illuminating the Spire for the week** may be given in honor or in memory of your loved ones. \$30 for either. See the board and envelopes in the lobby next to the main office door.

Please continue to pray for these friends who are Serving Our Country:

- ✚ Paul Sovitsky, son-in-law of Bernice Peacher
- ✚ Robert Thompson, nephew of Rick and Nancy DeVilbiss
- ✚ Nicholas Davis & Stuart Davis, Jr, cousins of Luke Bengel and nephews of Susan Davis
- ✚ Tommy Jenkins, nephew of Karen Jenkins, cousin of Jordan, Brendan, & Owen Smith
- ✚ Richard Barrans, serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi

Towson United Methodist Church's Calendar of Events

TODAY, SUNDAY, July 24, 2016

8:15a Chapel Communion Service — Chapel

9:00a Adult class *Half Truths* (thru 7/24) - Rm 214

Breakfast on the Patio — meet & greet
on the front patio of the church
Sponsored by our RAMs (Reconciling and
Accepting Methodists) — Choose Love!

10:00a to 11:30... Childcare infants to
age 3 (since 1/1/16) —Room 122

10:15a Worshipping God Together — Sanctuary

Children age 3 (before 1/1/16) to age 6
begin in the worship service with your family;
to be dismissed after the Children's Moment
to Room 314 to learn about the Parables of
Jesus. Families please pick up your children
at the end of the service.

Children 7 years old and older stay in the
worship service with their families
throughout the summer.

11:30a Set up for Vacation Bible Camp

5:00p to 7:00... Modern Cross — College student
Cookout here at TUMC

MONDAY, July 25

TODAY'S MISSION: TOILETRIES KITS

9:00a to 12 noon... Vacation Bible Camp

7:00p Stewardship Committee meets — Parlor

TUESDAY, July 26

TODAY'S MISSION: EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

9:00a to 12 noon... Vacation Bible Camp

6:00p Attentional Prayer — Chapel

7:30p NA support group — Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, July 27

TODAY'S MISSION: FOOD FOR THOUGHT

9:00a to 12 noon... Vacation Bible Camp

8:00p Gamblers Anonymous—Room 214-216

THURSDAY, July 28

TODAY'S MISSION: PETS IN NEED

9:00a to 12 noon... Vacation Bible Camp

7:30p Al-Anon & CoDA — 3rd floor

8:30p AA — Room 212-214-216

FRIDAY, July 29

TODAY'S MISSION: FLOOD BUCKETS FOR UMCOR

9:00a to 12 noon... Vacation Bible Camp

SATURDAY, July 30

9:00a to 10:30a... Emergency Food Pantry open
In Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY, July 31

8:15a Chapel Communion Service — Chapel

9:00a Breakfast on the Patio — meet & greet
on the front patio of the church

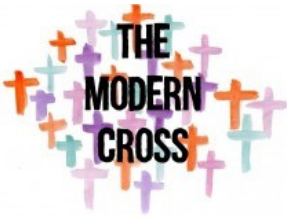
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worship service with their families
throughout the summer.



FREE FOOD!!!

Do we have your attention yet? Good!

College students and young adults of the Towson area listen up!

TODAY

MODERN CROSS is having a cookout 5:00-7:00pm

here at Towson United Methodist Church.

Come enjoy free food, fun, and games, with an optional discussion afterwards on God in today's world.

Your hosts are Matt, Allie, Hannah, Krista, Laura, Jordan, and Kaydee (who provided this great artwork). Come join them!

CRAB FEAST — SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

4:00—7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Last year's crab feast was a huge success! Catered, again, by **Conrad's of Parkville** with Henry & Will have agreed to do an encore performance as awesome DJs.

Price remains at:

\$45 per person, \$30 for children under age 12, free for children age 5 and younger

BENEFITS our future new Sanctuary Windows.

Contact Ginny Foster for tickets

call [410-296-4780](tel:410-296-4780) or email virginiafoster@comcast.net

If you prefer to mail your reservation, pick up a form on the Information Desk in the lobby.

Calvary Baptist Church in Towson is hosting the **Maryland Defense Force Jazz band, Saturday, July 30** from 6-8pm. It's free. In their courtyard. Parking free in their church lot. No pets. Bring a canned good for the **Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC)**.

ACTC is in need of Volunteers who would be willing to pick-up food from Fresh Market in the Dulaney Valley Shopping Center across from the Mall. Right now we have people scheduled everyday but Friday morning (between 9 AM and 9:30 AM). We can also use people who might be able to pick up if someone is absent. Call Cathy Burgess 410-296-4855.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR VBC

Each day during VBC, the children are asked to bring an item to support the missions below. You are invited to support the missions by bringing in one or more items from the lists below and dropping them off in the church lobby. Everyone may participate!

Monday: Toiletries Kits — single toothbrushes and toothpaste, razors and travel size shaving cream, tissue packs, combs, travel size: shampoo, deodorant, hand sanitizer, sunscreen

Tuesday: Emergency Food Pantry — cereal (raisin bran, Cheerios, corn flakes), chunky soups, canned beef stew, cans of spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles

Wednesday: Food for Thought (food for at risk children in our community) — Single Serving Size Only: 6 pack applesauce, cheese crackers, pretzel and goldfish packs, flip top fruit cups, flip top tuna with crackers, small pasta bowls such as mac/cheese or ravioli

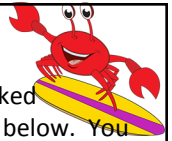
Thursday: Pets in Need — canned dog and cat food, unopened dry dog and cat food, dog and cat treats

Friday: Flood Buckets for UMCOR — clothes pins (50 pack), 50 oz. or 25 oz. liquid (only) laundry detergent 16-28 oz. liquid (only), dish detergent, aerosol or pump air freshener, handi-wipes, 6-14 oz. insect repellent aerosol or pump spray with cover, scrub brush with plastic or wooden handle

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT CHANGES

We pray for **Bishop LaTrelle Easterling**, our newly-appointed bishop of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, who starts in this ministry when **Bishop Marcus Matthews** retires Sept. 1.

Following the election of **Bishop Cynthia Moore Koikoi** to the episcopacy and subsequent appointment to the Western Pennsylvania District, the **Rev. Edwin DeLong** will serve as the interim superintendent of the Baltimore Metropolitan District. He begins in this role Aug. 1 and can be reached then at 410-608-1690. Prior to that time, any questions or concerns can be directed to the **Rev. J-W Park**, dean of the Cabinet.



Persistent Prayer Doesn't Annoy God!



D	J	U	J	A	R	P	S	D	G
E	U	N	U	D	E	A	P	I	L
C	D	W	S	V	S	R	E	S	S
I	G	I	T	E	P	A	E	H	J
S	E	L	I	R	E	B	D	O	J
I	U	L	C	S	C	L	I	N	P
O	N	I	E	A	T	E	L	E	P
N	P	N	P	R	A	Y	Y	S	A
J	K	G	H	Y	F	A	I	T	H
E	D	A	J	W	I	D	O	W	X

parable	pray	judge
widow	decision	adversary
unwilling	respect	dishonest
justice	speedily	faith

How can I get God's attention?

I pray when I ...

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reflect (think about it) | Read the Bible | Write in a Journal about God's Love |
| Sing for God | Praise God | Study about God |
| Talk to God | Talk about God | Shout to God |
| Listen | Be silent | Serve others |
| Cry with God | Help someone | Say I'm sorry |
| Say Thank you | Ask God | Dance for God |
| Draw or paint a picture and give it to someone | | Make a craft and give it to someone |
| Go see if your neighbor needs anything | | Come to church and worship God |

Can you think of other ways you can pray? _____



Towson United Methodist Church

501 Hampton Lane , Towson, MD 21286

410-823-6511

www.towsonumc.org towsonprays.blogspot.com

Church's Business Hours

Monday - Thursday — 10:00a-3:00p

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Marcus Matthews, Resident Bishop

Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Superintendent, Baltimore Metro. District

Carole Dean, TUMC's Church Lay Leader

Rev. Dr. Roderick J. Miller, Lead Pastor, rmiller@towsonumc.org

410-823-3640 (church); 410-465-2335 (home)

Preaching, worship, administration, pastoral visitation, visioning, and ministry development.

Rev. Margery Schammel, Assistant Pastor, mschammel@towsonumc.org, 410-823-2485

Christian education for children, youth, and adults, and worship leadership.

Rev. Doug Hollida, Minister of Music, MusicDirector@towsonumc.org, 410-823-6519

Children, youth, and adult vocal choirs, handbell choirs, worship accompanist, and composer.

Cathy Anderson, Director of Communications, communications@towsonumc.org, 410-823-3689

Graphics, Sunday bulletins, newsletters, webmaster, audio & visuals for worship, liaison to missions.

Kim Ayres, Business Manager/Receptionist, kayres@towsonumc.org, 410-823-3693

Financial and office administration and liaison to Finance and Trustees.

Bob Ashby, Maintenance Assistant, 410-823-2153

Building cleaning, set ups, minor repairs, liaison to Property & Maintenance.

Hampton Lane Child Development Center, Erin Rigley, Center Director

410-825-0008, ccddirector@towsonumc.org

WHAT IS THIS? No, it's not a new stamp from the Post Office ... but it is for your smart phone! If you have an app to scan QR codes, then **HERE IT IS** ... the Towson United Methodist QR code. You can donate to the church online from your pew using your credit card or online banking! It's safe and secure. **This includes your Sunday offerings, Capital Journey payments, and monthly mission offerings. For miscellaneous payments (such as a lunch) to the church, click on OTHER, make sure you fill in the memo line.**



You can also submit your donations at www.towsonumc.org, scroll down, click on DONATE. Follow the same instructions as above.