

Worship

You have noticed that we have tried out a worship series format for much of this year. If you have been particularly observant, you've noticed that the bulletin boards, bulletin covers, bulletin tables, music, quotes, "takeaways," etc. have centered around the theme of the series. Our hope is that each week's message is delivered in a number of ways so that it sticks with you!

That said, the planning of a worship series takes, well, planning! Many different forms of creativity, organization and talents are needed. If you would like to help with planning, let Lea know. We meet only a time or two for each series, and it's really inspiring to hear new ideas. We are always looking for ways to include children in worship, visuals to enhance the message, points to ponder between Sundays, and on and on! Join us! The more the merrier!



The Pilgrim



Wilson's Mills Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world..."

October 2018

A Message from the Minister

In July, I had a good time on the women's retreat until...let me back up. I had scheduled a guest speaker to meet with us on Friday at 11:00 AM. And, she was going to be awesome! Our morning agenda was planned around our speaker's arrival. At 9:45 AM, I received a text saying that she had come down with a nasty stomach bug and would not be able to join us



That is when I took a breath.

I've led these retreats for 11 years, and 11 years ago, that text would have sent me into a panic. 11 years ago, I would have been so afraid of looking foolish in front of our group. 11 years ago, I would have passed my stress right on to everybody else. But, it is not 11 years ago, and I know this group now. I know who can be counted upon to deliver a funny line – not to name names, but her initials are R.T. I know who can be

counted upon to bring the conversation back to God. I know who the talkers are, who the reflective ones are, who the artistic ones are, and who the nutty ones are. I know who is most likely to shed a tear...and who is most likely to join her. I know who can bust a move. I know who needs extra time, who needs extra help, and who just needs a little encouragement.

I know these things not because I am wise – although, if that is what you want to believe, go for it!

I know these things because I have been leading these retreats for WMCC women for 11 years and that means we have history...and quite a collection of matching t-shirts.

Shared history is a wonderful and increasingly rare thing. Shared history gives us a sense of belonging, so that when the unexpected happens, we are not shaken. Shared history lets us know, to quote Bob Marley, that "every little thing is gon-

na be all right." Shared history has taught us, through trial and error, how to take care of each other. Shared history emboldens us to step out in faith because we know that we are not alone and that the Holy Spirit has our back. Shared history provides us with stories and stability.

In a culture that offers us a world of change with the click of a mouse, what a gift to have shared history...and stability.

I give thanks for the relationships here that get strengthened layer by layer in the struggles and joys that we face together. I give thanks for the history we share and for the future that we anticipate with joy.

As we prepare for Consecration Sunday, thank you, WMCC for allowing me to be part of your history. Thank you for the memories. Now, let's make some new ones!

Consecration Sunday

Consecration Sunday is coming up on October 14th! This is the day that we celebrate our commitment to all that God is doing at WMCC. We celebrate by completing an "Estimate of Giving" card for 2019 and placing that card in an offering basket at the close of the worship service. We also celebrate by enjoying a catered luncheon!

It is our hope that between now and October 14th, you will give some thought and prayer to how God might be calling you to support the ministries of WMCC. As you know, we do not put together any kind of budget until we've celebrated Consecration Sunday. Our reasoning behind that decision is that we do not simply want to "pledge the budget" each year. We actually want congregational members to pray about their giving, to listen for God's guidance, and then to make their "estimate" based upon what they believe God is calling them to do.

Wait. What? Does God actually "call" us to give? Well, God has a stake in our giving because God has a stake in our church. WMCC is God's choice for ministry and Good News at the corner of Powhatan and Fire Department Roads. So, yes, I believe God calls us to give, and I believe God offers guidance on that giving if we seek it out.

So, come celebrate on October 14th! Enjoy a great lunch and give thanks for the part we play in God's plan for the world!

- Lea

Speaking of Consecration Sunday...

we will begin the celebration on October 14th
at 10 AM with an

intergenerational prayer walk

starting in the sanctuary....
and in a few other places
around the church.



Join us!

October 2018



Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 HOPE 4 PM LOGOS 5:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM	4	5	6
7 Nominating Committee noon	8	9	10 LOGOS 5:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM	11	12	13
14 Consecration Sunday	15	16	17 HOPE 4 PM LOGOS 5:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 LOGOS 5:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Lea will be on vacation October 19— October 27. Please contact Donald Bedsole in case of pastoral emergency. A local min- ister will be on-call.		

October Worship Service

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
Church Appointments	Ashley & Todd Higginson/Lynn & Travis Stephenson			
Communion Bread Baker	Allison Lawhorn			
Elder	Joe Slaton	Sarah Foxworth	Jason Lawhorn	Linda Stephenson
Deacons	Lynn Stephenson Donald Bedsole	Tim Wells Armando Mejia	Chris Murray Linda Froiland	Karen Klahre Leanne Bronson
Worship Leader	Tim Wells	Eileen Byrd	Jason Lawhorn	T.J. Parrish
Children's Sermon	Melony Amerson	Sarah Barnhart	Ginger Lee	Paula Bennett
Nursery	TJ & Meagan Parish	Teresa & Bob McGivney	Linda Froiland	Paula Bennett
Acolytes	Kathryn Lawhorn	Kenny Bernier	Kendall Wells	Zack Parrish
Paraments	Green	Green	Green	Green

Happy Birthday!

- Larry Ramsey—October 2
- Eileen Byrd—October 4
- Mike Watts—October 8
- Robert Harless—October 11
- Kim Williams—October 15
- Leanne Bronson—October 17
- Denise Tilden—October 22
- Jason Lawhorn - October 30

Prayer Concerns

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Sheila Gamez | Richard Vaughan | Rachel Konneker |
| Larry Ramsey | JT Hope | Davy Altman |
| Jimmy Batten | Pete Konneker | Brazzie Ray |
| Karen Reich | Sally Bailey | David Higginson |
| Sue Harrell | Mary Francis Harrison | Bobby & Lujuanna Pagan |
| Hurricane Victims | Claudia Bedsole | Bob Martinello |

2018 Financial Information

2018 Stewardship Plan - \$154,529
 Aug YTD Stewardship Plan - \$103,314
 Aug YTD Pledges Received - \$100,571
 Aug YTD Donations Received - \$5,349



All Saints' Day

We will be trying something new on November 4th...a celebration of All Saints' Day. All Saints is a day to honor all people, known and unknown, who are now residing in heaven. So, it is a day to remember your sainted grandparents who have gone to their great reward. It's a day to remember leaders, disciples, and martyrs who have given witness to true faith, some at the cost of their lives. And, it is a day to remember "all saints" in between who paved the way for us.

This day encourages us because we recall that we are not alone in our pilgrimage. We are surrounded by "so great a cloud of witnesses" and we are part of the "communion of saints." These saints speak from the past to remind us that "God is faithful," "The Lord is good through all eternity, "God's grace is enough." You can probably bring to mind people from your past who taught you these lessons while they walked this earth, and in your memories of them, they continue to teach.

So, WMCC will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 4th. You are invited to bring photographs of "saints" in your life who have gone on to heaven (family members, friends, etc.) to be used as part of the morning worship service—to put faces with "the great cloud of witnesses." Please have these pictures to Lea or Karen Klahre by Sunday, October 28th. We will display them in the sanctuary on November 4th as we celebrate the "communion of saints" that is ours.

Please have your photographs to the church by Sunday, October 28th.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us..." - Hebrews 12:1