**November 13, 2016 8:30 & 10:45**

**Reaching Outward, Nurturing Inward, & Growing Together**

1000 members involved in 100 ministries for 1 mission

An old saying encourages us to put first things first. As Christians, our first consideration must always be discipleship. What does it mean to be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ in relation to our use of all of God's gifts? Jesus said, "Strive first for the kingdom of God." (Matthew 6:33)

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymn 347 Spirit Song**  (seated) *Spirit Song*

 **Hymn 405 Seek ye first** *Seek ye*

**Greeting**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you God’s faithful ones,

**People: and give thanks to God’s holy name.**

*Psalm 30:4*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your songs and prayers.

**People: We lift our voices to God.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your hopes and joys.

**People: We bring our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your needs and fears.

**People: We lay down our burdens before Christ.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your gifts and treasures.

**People: We offer our lives to Christ.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with all that you have and with all that you are.

**People: Let us worship together this day.**

*The Abingdon Worship Annual*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn of Praise 405 Morning has broken** (standing) *Bunessan*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison, standing)

**God of abundant love, pour your love and your Spirit upon us, that we may recognize our abundance and give our love and our lives completely and freely to you. Help us to follow the example of the widow, whose offering in the Temple was noticed by Jesus. She offered her best gift, and in doing so she displayed her total commitment to you. In a similar manner, enable us to respond to your call with resolute hearts and committed lives. In Christ’s holy name, we pray. Amen.**

 **… TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

 Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
 People: And also with you.

Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

 This, this is where children belong,

 welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

 Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:

 This is where children belong.

 WORDS: James Ritchie MUSIC: James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

**Handbell Anthem 10:45** Celebrate with Ringing *Michael Mazzatenta*

Promise Bells

**Message for Young Disciples** Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

 (All children are invited. Please sing as children come forward.)

After the children’s message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 through 3rd grade may attend **Kids Praise** in the Welcome Center. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the Sanctuary near the end of the service, and parents may meet them.

**Handbell Anthem 10:45**  Morning Song  *Barbara Baltzer Kinyon*

 Chapel Bells

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Kathy Tremblay 10:45 Linda Minotte

 A Lesson from the Hebrew Scripture

 Exodus 36:1-7 The collection for the tabernacle is completed

**Anthem 10:45** African Psalm*Kenyan, arr. Patrick M. Liebergen*

Refrain: Lift your voices to God with singing! Praise the Lord with a joyful song!

 Celebrate! He is Lord forever! Glory be to the mighty King! Everybody rejoice and sing!

 Shout with joy to the Lord who made us; God created the earth and sky!

 Raise your hands to the Lord on high!

 *Io, o*, alleluia! *Io,o*, sing alleluia! Lift your voices to God in song, forever in joyful song!

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

 **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospel

 Matthew 6:25-34 Jesus teaches about worry and necessities

**Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**… TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES …**

**Offertory Solo** **8:30** There is a name I love to hear *setting by John Carter*

Offertory Anthem 10:45 *Lowell Mason, arr. Alice Parker*

 Work, for the night is coming! Work, through the morning hours;

 work, while the dew is sparkling; work 'mid springing flowers;

 work, while the day grows brighter under the glowing sun;

 work, for the night is coming when man's work is done.

 Work, for the night is coming! Work through the sunny noon;

 fill brightest hours with labor; rest comes sure and soon. Give every flying minute

 something to keep in store; work, for the night is coming, when man works no more.

Work, for the night is coming! Under the sunset skies,

while their bright tints are glowing,

 work, for daylight flies; Oh, we must work till the last beam fadeth, fadeth to shine no more;

 work, while the night is darkening when man's work is o'er.

**Doxology 94**

 Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

 Praise God the source of all our gifts!

 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “First Things First” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn of Commitment 572 Pass it on** (standing) *Pass it on*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The altar flowers** are given in loving memory of Philip Sweeney by the Sweeney family.

**The flowers in the Chancel** are given by a church member in grateful thanksgiving for all MLUMC member volunteers.

**The rosebud on the altar** is in celebration of the birth of Dexter Martin Stokes, son of Timothy and Anne Stokes, who was born on October 9, 2016.

**Special music at 10:45** is provided the Promise Bells and the Chapel Bells, directed by Nancy R. Lutz; the Youth Choir; the men of the Youth Choir and the Chancel Choir; and percussionist Brendan Dowds.

**Greeters 8:30** Lois and Candice Colley **10:45** Priscilla Utzig

**Acolytes** Juliana and Lydia Slater

**Worship options for children** We encourage children to participate in the **Children’s Sermon** at both services, and in **Kids Praise** during the 10:45 service. **Nursery services** are offered in Room 204 of the Education Building. Ask ushers or greeters and follow signs for direction.

**Podcasts of Sunday Sermons** Would you like to share this morning’s sermon with a friend or did you miss a Sunday? Catch up on the messages from MLUMC with a podcast of Pastor Tom’s and others’ Sunday sermons. Sermons from the past three months are at http:// mlumc.buzzsprout.com. You can navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, www.mlumc.org, through the app, Stitcher or through iTunes.

**Flower Donations** Honor or remember a loved one or friend with a Sunday flower arrangement donation. Contact Sharon Slater, 412-343-1137

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Exodus 36:1-7**

Bezalel and Oholiab and every skillful one to whom the Lord has given skill and understanding to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded.

2Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and every skillful one to whom the the Lord had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred to come to do the work;

3and they received from Moses all the freewill offerings that the Israelites had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning,

4so that all the artisans who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task being performed,

5and said to Moses, “The people are bringing much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do.”

6So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” So the people were restrained from bringing;

7for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work.

**Matthew 6:25-34**

25“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

26Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? 28And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,

29yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

30But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

31Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’

32For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

33But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Robert Fairgrieve, Providence Place

Gwen Lammert, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Andy Smith, Concordia Health Care

Tim Watters, Baptist Homes

**Convalescing at Home**

Earl Killian, Arlene Stewart

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown

**Capt. Zachary Allen Finch, USMC**James Iantelli, 1st Lt. Jaskiewicz
S. Sgt. Keith Kimmell, Adam Kmick
PFC Brendan Lamport
Sgt. Matthew McConahan, Thomas Orda
Lt. Col. Mark Patterson

Lt. Com. Scott Patterson

**Hospitalizations**

Susan Lichtenfels, St. Clair Hospital

Gwen Lammert, Shadyside Hospital

Lt. Col. Sean Patterson
David Poncel, Sgt. Steven Reitz
Capt. Scott B. Rushe, Pastor Rick Townes
Capt. Azizi Wesmiller

Capt. Matthew C. Wesmiller
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski

Sgt. Michael Zimmerman

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 THRU SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

**SUNDAY 11/13**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages/Coffee Café Various/Brookline Parlor

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 12:00 am Stewardship Luncheon Asbury Center

 5 pm Youth Group Asbury Center

**MONDAY 11/14**

 3 pm Laughlin’s Family Holiday Grief Dinner Asbury Center

 7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7 pm German Classes Welcome Center

**TUESDAY 11/15**

 6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury Center

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

**WEDNESDAY 11/16**

 6 pm Finance Committee Wesley Center

 7 pm Koinonia UMW Evening Circle Welcome Center

 7:30 pm Horizon Town Hall Meeting Asbury Center

**THURSDAY 11/17**

 9:30 am UMW Faith Circle Wesley Hall

 11:30 am UMW Rebecca Wesley Hall

 6:00 pm Horizon Meeting – Church Council Welcome Center

 6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 11/18**

 8:30 am Chartiers Valley MHMR Party Asbury Center

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

 7:30 pm Korean Praise & Prayer Service Sanner Chapel

**SATURDAY 11/19**

 10 am Food Distribution Pantry

**Saturday, December 3 - Membership Information Session**

Considering church membership? Come to an informative gathering for prospective new members on Saturday, December 3, in Wesley Hall at 10 am. Those who choose membership will be received into our church fellowship during both worship services on December 11th. Please register for participation at the church office 412-531-7131 or churchsecretary@mlumc.org. If you need Childcare for this meeting, let the office know when you register.

Ever think about  going on a mission trip?  An informational meeting for 2017 volunteer trips with The Nyadire Connection (TNC) will be held on Sun., Nov. 20th at 5:30 pm. at Baldwin Community United Methodist Church in Asbury Hall. The skills of the team members and projects are adjusted to the current needs of the mission. Contact Molly Michael at mollyalice.michael@gmail.com or (412) 805-6481.

