

WESLEY MEMORIAL

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION High Point, North Carolina

September 2018

Ramblings from A Reverend

Volume 26 No. 9



returned from a ten day study leave that took me to Cambridge and Oxford in England. Tammy and I worshipped at the cathedrals of Norwich,

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Canterbury, and Oxford. We visited Holy Trinity Church, Headington Quarry, and St. Aldate's Church in Cambridge. Holy Trinity Church was the home parish of the great Christian author, C.S. Lewis. St. Aldate's Church is the oldest church in Cambridge. We also visited the Kilns, the homeplace of C.S. Lewis. I spent a week studying church history with Dr. Richard Rex, Professor of Reformation Studies at Cambridge University. My wife and I enjoyed traveling throughout the English countryside. I was reminded how much I enjoy some of their most famous dishes such as fish and chips, bangers and mash and shepherd's pie.

I admit that I am an "anglophile." I love



the history and culture of England. Well, mostly.

Except for a few bright spots, the Christian Church in England has fallen on hard times. This is true for much of Europe. Fewer than 5% of the population attend church on any given Sunday. It seems like the English society has become noticeability more secular since my first visit to England in 2003. Frequently, when I would hear necessary discussions England about English history and Christianity, it was usually with a slight sense of

embarrassment. Such as, "We don't really like to talk about this religious stuff much any more because we don't want to offend anyone, but it did play a great role in the creation of English society." I find that sad.

England is still a land filled with church buildings. Many have very, very small congregations. Many are only museums, interesting relics of the past. I have a great concern that we in the USA are following Europe's great religious decline and pursuing a celebrated creation of a purely secular state that is occasionally forced to acknowledge its Christian history. I find that sad.

But, this does not have to be our Ghost of Christian Future in the USA. Our future can be different from that of secularized Europe. But, I don't hear many Christians even praying for revival or renewal in our land so I wonder if American Christians truly want a different future. We pray for a lot of different things in our churches, most usually physical concerns of those that we love. That is good. But, that might not be our greatest need today. All great revival and renewal movements in Christian history have been preceded by great prayers seeking such a move of God.

Will you join me in committing to the spiritual vitality of Wesley Memorial Church? The world needs our strong Christian witness. Will you make it one of your top priorities in life? As we commit to the spiritual vitality of our congregation, we will find fulfilment in our spiritual lives and change the world around us.



With Confidence in Christ,

Pastor Jeff

SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH.

September is Hunger Action Month[™] – the Feeding America® network's nationwide awareness campaign designed to mobilize the public to take action on the issue of hunger. The campaign brings attention to the reality of hunger in the United States and promotes ways for individuals and organizations to get involved in the movement to help end hunger.



Especially the 1 in 7 Americans who stanggle with hunger The Hunger Action Month sense and the Peeding Action Month sense and the Peeding Action Interpreted Performed

Wesley Memorial is heavily involved and deeply supportive of those ministries and services that address the issue of hunger and food scarcity.



Hunger Action at
The Ward Street Mission *Free*

COMMUNITY MEAL Thursdays 5:30–6:30 pm

FOOD PANTRY Wednesdays 9:00 am-12 noon

> **Thursdays** 5:00–6:30 pm

To engage these ministries, go to the Ward Street Mission on any of the dates/times listed above:

> 1619 W Ward Avenue High Point, NC 27260

> > or call

(336) 884-1609



Feeding Lisa's Kids is a ministry started by Lisa Hawley. Once a month, Lisa and her volunteers gather to sort and distribute food for hungry children in High Point. Volunteers are welcome to join Lisa at 6:30 am on the FIRST Wednesday of each month on the Fellowship Hall patio of Wesley Memorial. Questions? Contact Lisa Hawley on Facebook @feedinglisaskids.

"According to a (2016) report from Food Hardship in America, the Greensboro/High Point region ranked as a top five metropolitan area in the nation in terms of a high percentage of citizens experiencing food shortages, while 81 percent of households in North Carolina who receive food assistance do not know form where their next meal will come."



In partnership Fairview Elementary School, Wesley Memorials helps provide single serving meals for the children who live in the surrounding neighborhood or who attend Fairview School. Much needed food items are:

Juice - individual juice boxes Milk - individual milk boxes (non-perishable)

Breakfast items - individual cereal boxes/cups, pop tarts, granola bars, muffin packs Milk - individual milk boxes (non-perishable)

Fruit - individual packs/cans Protein - individual containers of chef boyardee spaghetti, ravioli, beefaroni; small cans

Snacks - individual pudding cups, jello cups, cookies, chips, pretzels, rice krispy treats



Drive HUNGER OUT of High Point September 29, 10:00 am—2:00 pm Drive THRU Food Drive

You 🔚 Help

drop off non-perishable food

2301 S. Main Street, High Point 27263 HelpingHandsHP.org • 336-886-7696



Helping

Hands

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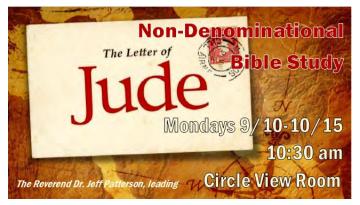
One of our ministry partners, Open Door Ministries, needs volunteers to help serve meals on the **3rd Monday** and **2nd Thursday** of each month (even when the day falls on a holiday) from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. To sign-up,

contact Julie Price at: 336-869-0672 or jfprice@northstate.net

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

This Month

New Bible Studies



Are you passionate about learning how to guard what God has entrusted to you, furthering His kingdom by sharing Christ with others, and pouring into future generations? If so, join one of two Bible studies based up on the book Entrusted by Beth Moore. Women Of Wesley meet on Tuesdays at 9:15 beginning September 11. Student and families meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm beginning September 12. Workbooks for adults are available for purchase at the front desk. This study series is part of Student Ministries new MERGE event on Wednesday nights. Questions? Contact Jessica Nelson at jessicalotusnelson@gmail.com.



Wednesdays, 6:30 pm The Underground Join us for **Charles Celo** A Study of 2 Timothy by BETH MOORE

Other Opportunities



MERGE starts Wednesday, September 12 Questions? Contact Jessica Nelson at jessicalotusnelson@gmail.com

THE TAXES, THEY ARE A CHANGIN

Confused about new tax laws? Looking for up to date information?

> Tax Seminar with Karen Odom, CPA, CDFA Thursday, September 20 6:30 pm Dining Hall

refreshments and desserts

Sponsored by Congregational Care Team





Beginning WEDNESDAY September 12







Debbie Foust Director of Children's Ministries 336-812-4804 dfoust@wesleymemorial.org

Fall Sunday School

We had an exciting Move Up Sunday on August 26. We blessed over 30 backpacks during Sunday school. If you forgot to bring your back pack last Sunday bring it this Sunday to receive a special tag to remind our children that we are praying for them and that "Jesus has their Back".



In our preschool classes, the "Sprouts" will begin their new Sunday School classes actively involved in learning wonderful Bible stories and getting to know each other. During the Fall they will focus on families. Jesus was part of a family and so are we. In "The Greenhouse, growing to be like Jesus", our Kindergarten through 5th grade classes will learn how God used David and Esther to accomplish great things.



Remember, Sunday school starts at 9:45!

Bible Sunday Sunday, September 23

During the 11:00 am traditional service we will present Bibles to the rising third grade class. These Bibles are a gift from the Covington and Millis families and have been given to 3rd graders since 1922 in memory of J. Edward Millis, Jr. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone in the lives of our third graders.

Quest Bible Retreat Saturday, September 29



Third graders are encouraged to participate in Quest Bible retreat where they will learn about their Bible, how it came to be and how to use it as well as the wonderful treasures

that are in-side. If you would like more information, contact Debbie Foust or Kim Suda at: **ksuda@wesleymemorial.org**

Bible Explorers



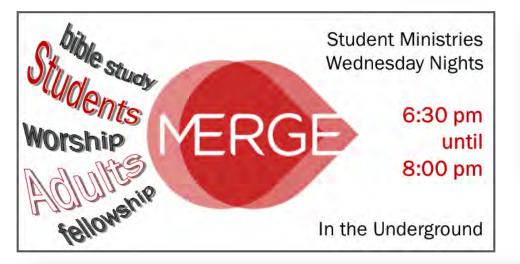
Sunday afternoon programs for Kindergarteners through 5th grades will begin October

14 through November 18. Registration information and brochures will be available on the Elementary hall mid -September or you can contact Debbie Foust or Kim Suda at: ksuda@wesleymemorial.org Steven Nelson

Director of Student Ministries 336-812-4812 snelson@wesleymemorial.org









Summer Fun!









The Reverend Jared Stine

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care 336-812-4813 jstine@wesleymemorial.org



Next Memory Café: Thursday, September 6

Weekly Email Prayer List

The email list will share recent joys, concerns, bereavements, and ministry events.

If prayer is your gift, we invite you to sign-up to receive this weekly email prayer list.

To sign-up, call Cynthia Reddick 336.884.2204



Caregivers -

You are not alone!

Are you a caregiver for a friend or family member? Caring for a loved one is very rewarding and reflects the compassion God has for us and wants us to show one another. However, caregiving is challenging, too. Sometimes you need a friend whose been in your shoes - someone to offer support, a listening ear, or suggest strategies and ideas to help your loved one thrive. Wesley Memorial has a group of folks who've walked the caregiving journey, and they would love to support other caregivers in our congregation. Would you like to make a connection with one of them? Contact Jared Stine for more information.



Wesley Memorial's Heartline is a dedicated phone line with a message each day that includes a Scripture, information on hospitalizations and bereavements, upcoming ministry events and announcements. The Heartline phone number is:

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336-883-8721
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Wesley Memorial's Pet Blessing at City Lake Park 602 W Main St. Jamestown, NC 27282

Sunday, October 7 3:00 pm

The Reverend Erin Beall

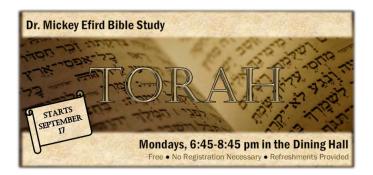
Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation & Contemporary Worship 336-812-4815; ebeall@wesleymemorial.org



adult spiritual formation

Mickey Efird

Dr. Mickey Efird will be joining us once again this year to share in a weekly Bible study. This time he'll be looking at the Torah, the foundational books of the Jewish Scripture that form what we often call "The Law." Perhaps you've heard preaching and teaching about "the Law" as we've moved through a sermon series on Galatians this summer. Well, here's your chance to go deeper with a renowned Biblical scholar. Join us Monday nights starting September 17, from 6:45-8:45 pm in the Dining Hall. This is a free event, no registration necessary. Refreshments are provided.



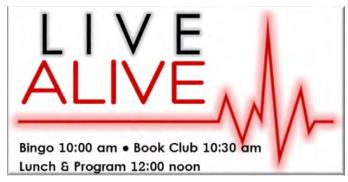


wesleymemorialjourneygroups.org

Live Alive

Live Alive is set to begin on its regular third Tuesday of the month, beginning on Tuesday, September 18. We are excited to welcome Dr. Karen Pollard, a psychologist, who will present a program on MEMORY. She will discuss brain wellness, myths about memory and aging, memory loss, and prevention. Join us for bingo at 10:00 am, book club at 10:30 am, and lunch and our program from Dr. Pollard at 12:00 noon. Bring a friend and enjoy a wonderful meal featuring chicken pie!

Please call the church by Friday, September 14 to reserve your meal, which is \$6.





This fall there will be celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I (Armistice Day, 11/11) and Wesley Memorial will be taking part. We'd like to remember those of our members who served but we don't have that

list and we need your help. If you had a family member who served in that war, or any others, and you believe they were members of Wesley Memorial at the time of service, please call or email and give the information to Kay Maynard:

336.883.7236 KayMaynard0@gmail.com





JoAnn Clifton, Director 336-884-4232 jclifton@wesleymemorial.org

> Susan Kelley, Associate Director 336-884-4232 skelley@wesleymemorial.org



Kids Against Hunger Hunger

Children's Crop Hunger Walk: Our First Mission Opportunity This Year

We will have our very own Crop walk for hunger to help our little ones understand and start early the concept of helping others. On Friday, September 21 at 10:00 am, we will walk around the front circle for infants and nursery ages. We will take a longer trek around the entire campus for our older preschoolers and kindergartners. Children's Crop Walk monies will be added to donations of the Wesley Memorial Team.

with the children and families closer to each other and to the church.

Love working with children? Two opportunities to be a part of the joy

Media Center Story Time Readers – with our kindergarten students, 11:30-11:50 am on Wednesdays. Substitutes and Child Care workers - Training Workshop will be held Wednesday & Thursday, September 19 & 20, 10:00am – 11:00am. We need substitutes. If you are interested and would like to apply to be a paid Substitute Assistant for WMS or a paid childcare worker, please attend ONE session. Anne Carroll Director of Traditional Music Ministries 336-812-4816 acarroll@wesleymemorial.org





September is the month when all singers and ringers at Wesley Memorial get back to work! The Chancel Choir and Handbell Quartet have been rehearsing all summer but many of our Wesley Singers and vacationers return in September. Everyone will be gearing up for weekly worship and special Sundays. Rehearsals of Christmas music begin in September for singers and ringers, as well.

Be sure to be present at the 11:00 am traditional service on September 30 when we will celebrate the hymns of Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts in a Hymn Festival: One Joyful Choir. We will celebrate with 6 hymns, readings, scripture, homily, the Chancel Choir, organ and trumpets.



Save the following dates and join in the music making.

Chancel Bells (adults) Rehearsal September 13, 7:00 pm

JuBELLation Choir (students age 6th grade-college) Rehearsal October 7, 3:00 pm

> **Children's Music** (children K-5th grade)

November 4, 9:30 am, before Sunday School

Chicken Pies 8" for \$9 or 10" for \$12

All proceeds go to missions (Ward Street Mission & Wesley 100)

ORDER BY October 1 Call: 336.884.2204 (Front Desk) Email: adp.corp@triad.rr.com (Carroll Brown)

PICK UP DATE: October 7, 10:00am - 1:00 pm, Dining Hall

Questions? Carroll Brown adp.corp@triad.rr.com

Chicken Pie Prep Thursday & Friday, October 4 & 5 Volunteers needed! Contact Carroll Brown at adpcorp@triad.rr.com

September Is Busy

At Wesley Memorial!

In order to share all that is going on in September, we chose to leave out memorial gift acknowledgements and death announcements for this month only.

We will share two months in October.



UMW Board will meet in the Small Dining Room on Monday, September 10, at 10:30 am and Tuesday, October 2, at 10:30 am.

UMW Annual Celebration for the Western NC Conference, September 14-16, Lake Junaluska. Topic is "**The Power of Bold**".

Patricia Nash suggests a new book in The Media Center, **Dear White America, Letter to a New Minority** by Tim Wise. White Americans have long been comfortable in the assumption that they are the cultural norm. Now that notion is being challenged, as white people share what it means to be part of a fast changing, truly multicultural nation. Very interesting and provocative book.

The Bazaar is coming, **Saturday, November 17**. As in the past we will be collecting clean, gently used items for The General Store and Silent Auction. NO CLOTHING. You may bring those items to the church for storage downstairs in Room C109. Please mark your donations "Bazaar". We appreciate your help.

FAITH Circle is sponsoring a Blood Drive at the church on Sunday, October 21.

Circle Meetings in September:

Circles 6 & 8 - Monday, September 10, 7:00 pm at the Erwin-Lambeth Showroom, 525 N. Wrenn Street. Speaker is Rebecca Coplin, High Point Beautiful. Located beside The Towers on Ray Street, plenty of parking at the front and side of the showroom.

Circle #9 - Tuesday, September 18, 10:30 am in the Dining Hall

FAITH Circle - Sunday, September 16, 3:30 pm. Location TBA

Angel Tree, Friendship Circles will not meet.

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