



The struggle is real! There is so much going on in our country right now that is affecting every one of us in some way! Every day when reading the newspaper, watching the news on TV, or reading news online there is something that can cause us concern.

The struggles of the day may cause us to worry or fear. We can find an answer in Philippians 4:6-7 (New Living Translation), which tells us, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." No matter what is happening, we can trust in God to give us peace and direct us to live to do what is best and right in our world.

As we live in a world of the unknown with a virus that is spreading without a vaccine available yet and in a country with various responses to racism which has been going on for centuries, we should be considering how we are to respond to the situations that are present, and questioning how we can act to help fix what's happening.

I've heard many times people asking if this is the end times. That is something that no one can answer except God. We have been given warning signs in scripture, and some things seem to be lining up with those. However, we have history that shows that other times in the past people saw similar warning signs. As Christians, we aren't to be getting caught up in the worry and fear, joining with those who are making things worse! We are to be drawing closer to God and living as Christ would live, working to do what is best for all!

So what can we do to make things better? What do we do that fits with Christ's teachings? It always comes back to the two commandments that Christ left us in Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV), "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" This is very clear! God comes first! Other people come second, and then us! Our wishes should be the last things to be considered in all things!

A friend sent me a song recently that speaks to how people can live in these times to make a difference. "Be the change you want to see in this world." "Be the voice you want to hear in this world." "Be the light you want to shine in this world, be the change you want to see in this world." "And change will come to you!" Everything that is going on can't change unless we are doing all that we can to make a difference! The changes that need to happen aren't those that are best for one, a few, or even a large group. We have to be changing to make this world what is best for ALL as a whole.

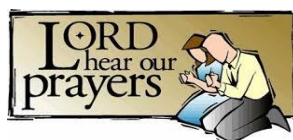
It takes changing the fighting to working together, changing the arguing to agreeing, changing attitudes from "It's about what I want!" to "It's about what God wants!" Pray for Change in this country and world, and seek direction from the Holy Spirit in all things first!

Blessings,
Pastor Ruthie Trigg



After 16 long weeks of being apart, we will finally be regathering for worship service, on Sunday, July 5th at 10:00am, with those who feel that they can safely join us. There has been much prayer and preparation in making this possible. The guidelines have been considered and will put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. These will be sent out by mail to the church family on Monday, June 29th. If you would rather have these emailed to you instead, please notify us at the office before that date. Decisions about Sunday School classes meeting will be made by the teachers and class members. Those meeting will need to meet in a location where guidelines can and will be met.

For those who are health compromised, or are not feeling comfortable with being out in public or in groups yet, be assured that we are working to be able to continue livestreaming the service on Facebook and putting the link on the website. The written script of the service will still be put on the church website; and e-mailed, or mailed to those who aren't able to watch online. We want to make sure that we are still reached out to all of you, so if you don't receive these scripts, please let the office know.



Joys

All the good things Pastor Ruthie is doing for us and also for those who are helping her during our time apart.

Answers to prayers

Concerns

Betty & Lee Winchell

Joyce Williams

Ed & Pat Seiler

Niles & Rita Blough

Irene & Bob Hopton

David L. - accident

Pam Hartman - kidney health

Sheryl Myers - surgery recovery

Continued prayers for Becky's great-niece Cora Rose

Those grieving the loss of loved ones

Our country & world as we fight against Covid-19 & Racial Injustice

Those out of work

Our sympathies to the families of:

Janet Steele

Judy Steele

RUMC Preschool

The Rittman United Methodist Preschool will be temporarily closed due to the Coronavirus. Due to the virus being alive and well, the committee thought it best to consider the safety of the children. Please pray that the school will be able to resume in a year.



One Day at a Time

Whatever the goal we're pursuing, no matter how rugged the climb, we're certain to get there by trying our best, and taking one day at a time.

"Forever" is hard to imagine, "the future" may seem far away- but every new dawn brings a wonderful chance to do what we can on that day.

~ Emily Matthews



Thank you to everyone who continues to support the funding for the food pantry. We have been able to keep well stocked currently.

In June we've had 12 families (1 new) and 29 people. There have been less families coming for food pantry the last couple months. We are unsure whether they are unaware that we are open, or if others in the community are stepping up to help those in need. If you hear of anyone needing food, please have them call the church office to come pick up a supply during office hours, or they can contact Pastor Ruthie to set up a different time to pick up. There are some sets of bags already prepared at the church.



Riddle

What goes up but never down?

Mary's Meanderings July, 2020

I've been wondering what to submit for Mary's Meanderings in light of all that's happening in the world today. I had read this earlier and thought I can't say it any better than this. It is the following, which was written by Pastor Rick Warren and was included in his online devotional Daily Hope on June 13, 2020. The sin of racism affects everyone; those who are exhibiting it, and those who are feeling the effect of it. And remember, the world seems to be getting darker but light shines brighter in darkness.

~ Mary Winkler

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't: The James Series

By Rick Warren

"The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)

Some people say, "When I look at people, I don't see their race. I don't see their color." There's a word for that: liar!

Nobody is colorblind when it comes to race. *And God doesn't want you to be colorblind. He wants you to be color blessed.*

God loves color. Just take a look outside! Everything he makes is in color, like sunsets and flowers. Look at all the different people around the world. God loves color! The way he created you demonstrates this.

We need to learn to see all people the way God sees them.

The Bible says, "*The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart*" (1 Samuel 16:7 NIV).

Quite frankly, that's a tall order for most of us. It's not natural to look at the inside before the outside. We're trained to make snap judgments based on outward appearance.

Some people you trust just by looking at them, others you don't. Books are judged by their covers. Homes are judged by their curb appeal. People are judged by how they look, dress, and talk.

So ask God to help you start seeing people the way he sees them. Look at their heart, not their skin.

It's one of the first steps toward overcoming prejudice in your life - and in the world around you.





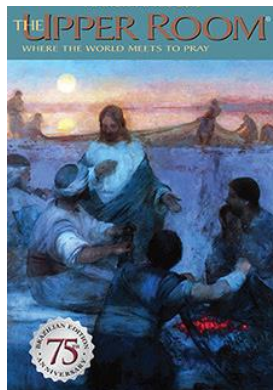
Women's Bible Study

Here is the schedule for the next YEAR! Along with the schedule, I have included each book. The total needed for all books is \$70.00, but remember that is for one full year. Just write a check to me, as I have already paid for them. If you find this amount difficult, talk to me, we will make some sort of arrangement.

God Bless,
Betty Winchell

So, here is the schedule:

1. **It's Not Supposed to Be Like This: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered** By: Lysa Terkeurst
July 9th - August 20th 6 Sessions
2. **Messy People: Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heroes**
By: Jennifer Cowart
September 10th - October 22nd 6 Sessions
3. **Malachi...A Love That Never Let's Go** By: Lisa Harper
November 5th - January 14th 8 sessions
4. **Better: A Study of Hebrews** By Jen Wilkin
January 28th - April 8th 10 Sessions
5. **Fierce: Women of the Bible Who Changed the World**
By: Jennifer Cowart
April 29th - June 10th 6 Sessions



"Upper Room" & "Our Daily Bread" Devotionals

We have the current and new devotional books.

You can stop in during office hours to pick them up,
or call Pastor Ruthie to drop them off at your door for you.



Start gathering your clean, gently used stuff that you don't want or need any more to help raise funds for the Food Pantry.

We are having a Rummage Sale **October 2nd – 9am-2pm**
& October 3rd – 9am-1pm.

If you can store things until the sale, it would be helpful to avoid carrying things up and down stairs. Then just bring your items anytime from Sept. 28th – Sept. 30th. However, items can be brought and stored in the youth rooms in the basement, if needed.

NO CLOTHING, PLEASE!

Please contact Mark Turnbow (330-696-0674) or the church office (330-925-4015) with any questions.



Everyone you know is fighting a battle you know nothing about, so be kind, always be kind and always pray for these people.



People will forget what you said.
People will forget what you did.
People will never forget how you made them feel.



Answer to Riddle:

Your age!

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand has made and preserved our nation, grant that our people may understand what it is they celebrate when they celebrate the 4th of July.

May they remember how bitterly our freedom was won, the down payment that was made for it, the installments that have been made since the Republic was born, and the price that must yet be paid for our liberty.

May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to please to do what is right.

May it ever be understood that our liberty is under God and can be found nowhere else.

May our faith be something that is not merely stamped upon our coins, but expressed in our lives.

To the extent that America honors thee, wilt thou bless America. Keep her true as thou hast kept her free, and make her good as thou hast made her rich.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Peter Marshall

Submitted by Sally Schwab



“And just as they who we commemorate were willing to sacrifice, so too must we, in a less final, less heroic way, be willing to give of ourselves.”

*By President Ronald Reagan
Arlington National Cemetery, 1982*



July

1st - Dale Stahl
8th - Nancy Booth
13th - Tina Richards
15th - Danny Kiefer
20th - Lisa Hartman

24th - Ty Ramsier
26th - Madeline Smith
28th - Irene Hopton

2nd - Eleanor Yoss
10th - Matt Seiler
14th - Sandy DiMascio
16th - Dana Dysinger
23rd - Josh Carey
Fred Winkler
25th - Bailey Yoss
27th - Bob Hartman
30th - Elaine Fetter



July

1st - Joe & Holly Staley
14th - Brent & Sarah Edington

11th - Mike & Debbie Knapic
29th Butch & Nancy McMillian



Let us stand straight with our hands on our hearts in honor of those who paid for our freedom.

Then we need to be on our knees in praise and prayer to our God Almighty, asking for guidance to change the wrongs to right. Thanking God for all we already have. We then get to our feet and follow God's directions to make America stronger and even better for all the people.

With God all things are possible.

"If my people who are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray..." ~ **2 Chronicles 7:14a NIV**