

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 8

August 2024



WIGHTMAN METHODIST CHURCH

WIGHTMAN ALERT

Issued to Alert You to Church Matters

From the Pastor - Stop Staring, Start Praying

Years ago, we witnessed a unique phenomenon. In August 2017, we saw a total solar eclipse throughout the United States. There was a buzz in the air for this event but I also remember hearing doctors and health officials plead, “Don’t stare directly into the sun!” But what did we all do? People stopped whatever they were doing and stared directly into the sky forgetting everything else.

There’s a story of Scripture when the followers of Jesus are doing the same - just staring at the sky (Acts 1:6-14). They had just witnessed the strange event of Jesus ascending into heaven and they were just stuck there. Staring. It took two angels to jolt them out of this daze asking, “Men of Galilee... why are you standing here staring into heaven?” (Acts 1:11, NLT). Perhaps they were a little dumbfounded, or even nervous, because of what just happened. Not just the ascension, but the mission given by Jesus. His last words to them were, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). They were about to be sent into the world on a mission.

This is exactly what unfolds in Acts. The Holy Spirit descends and these unqualified followers go from Jerusalem (their local community), to Judea and Samaria (the larger countryside), and to the very ends of the earth (places like Rome, Corinth and Ephesus). But the in-between step was to stop staring and start praying: “Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem... they all met together and were constantly united in prayer...” (Acts 1:12, 14). Prayer was the act of submission and anticipation for what God was going to do.

In the same way, we can get stuck staring - whether it’s at the good news of what Jesus has done. Or we can get stuck staring at the problems that are all around us. Either way, we can’t keep staring. Jesus has work for us to do. The in-between step from where we are now and where God wants to take us is prayer. My challenge to us at Wightman is that we need to stop staring and start praying. To do that, I want to offer this simple prayer guide based on ever expanding circles of ministry and witness. I encourage you to join me in prayer for each facet of our church as we submit to God and anticipate what He will do next.

Sundays: Worship: Jesus - First and Always
Mondays: My Ministry to My Neighbor
Tuesdays: Our Ministry to Our Town/Community
Wednesdays: Our Ministry to Our County
Thursday: Our Ministry to Our State
Friday: Our Ministry to Our Nation
Saturday: Our Ministry to the Ends of the Earth

Listening Sessions

Listening Sessions with Pastor Gryff will continue throughout August. If you want to get in on the conversation, check out the schedule below to make sure you can make it! There are opportunities during Sunday School and on Monday nights. Please use the QR code to sign up for a Monday night session.



August 4 - FISH Class August 11 - JC Class
August 18 - Growth Class Aug. 25 & Sept. 1 - Asbury Bedenbaugh Class
Monday, August 5, 12, 19, 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall

1. What do you value most about Wightman? What ministries/activities are important?
2. What is one thing you would fix right away?
3. What new ministries or growth do you hope to see in the next 5-10 years?

BEHOLD

The Global Methodist Church of SC invites you to attend BEHOLD 2024 on August 8th - 9th at Mt. Horeb Church in Lexington, S.C. All are welcome to attend! Registration is \$35.00. For more information on specifics and break out sessions, please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.



Special Gifts to Wightman

Way Forward Fund

In memory of Drucie Counts

By: Steve and Marge Counts
Merle Joy Thomason
Troy and Johnette Bowers
Marilyn and David E. Sease
Ladison and Paula Hamm
Ted Graham Family
Robbie and Jennifer Amick
Kevin and Johnette Kinard
Terry and Susan Fellers
Henry B. Summer & Co. Inc
Leonard and Therry May
Tommy and Jackie Bowers
H. Wehman and Anne Sieling
Kirk and Shirley Atwood
Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Tyler
Cody and Neva Caldwell
Lonnie and Amanda Finley
Larry and Barbara Swygert
Mid-Carolina High School
Marcelle Ackerman Karen Bowers
Patricia T. Brooks Pete McLain
Rosemary Bowers Mollie Graham
Martha B. Waller Ron and Jan Wood
Wylene Smith Christy Bouknight
Robert G. Shealy Traci Bouknight
Betty G. Dominick Joanne W. Newman

Music Fund

In memory of Camille Dixon

By: Kevin and Johnette Kinard
Chuck and Debra Weatherly
Mollie Graham

Women of Faith

In memory of Voris Bowers by Jeanne Riggs
In memory of Drucie Counts by Joan Mills

Sisters on Standby

Please join us in August for food, fun, and fellowship. This month participants are asked to share a little something about one of the women in the Bible. There are 137 women in the Bible (named and un named), so let's learn about them! Is she good? Bad? REALLY bad? Mysterious?

We meet in the Old Fellowship Hall every third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be on Monday, August 19. Please bring a finger food to share and your own beverage! Desserts, Paper goods, water, and ice will be provided.



Way Forward Fund Continued

In memory of Marie B. Johnson

By: Kevin and Johnette Kinard
Christy Bouknight
In memory of Camille Dixon by Traci Bouknight
In memory of Sandra McLain

By: Ladison and Paula Hamm
Ted Graham Family
Robbie and Jennifer Amick
Leonard and Therry May
Tommy and Jackie Bowers
Kirk and Shirley Atwood
Frieda E. Koon and Family
Kenny and Wendy Long
Stanley and Sandra Sheeley
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm
Lonnie and Amanda Finley
John and Charlotte Hargreaves
Rudolph and Shelby Kneece
Marcelle Ackerman Roger Dean Smith
Nadine Amick Karen Bowers
Betty G. Dominick Christy Bouknight
Mollie Graham Shirley Weaver
Wylene Smith Sue Hiller
Martha B. Waller Ron and Jan Wood
Kevin Boozer Traci Bouknight

Capital Improvement Fund

In memory of Sandra McLain and Drucie Counts by
Chuck and Debra Weatherly

ABC Fund

In memory of Sandra McLain by the Frances Asbury
Bedenbaugh Sunday School Class
In memory of Marie B. Johnson by the Asbury
Bedenbaugh Sunday School Class
In memory of Drucie Counts by the Asbury
Bedenbaugh Sunday School Class

Men's Bible Study

The Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, August 7, at 6:30 a.m. The group will be studying the 7th chapter of John.

Avg. Attendance for July

9:00 Worship - 148
11:15 Worship - 68
Combined Worship - 216
Church School - 109

Thank You

To my Wightman Family:

I want to thank the congregation and friends for the kindness and love, food, visits, and support given to me and family in our time of need.

In Christ's Love, Pete McLain and Family

Administrative Council Highlights

The Administrative Council of Wightman Methodist Church met Sunday, July 21, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in the Educational Building Fellowship Hall.

Chairman Jeff Shacker called the meeting to order. He opened with Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 saying that there is a time for everything and we are now starting a new beginning. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2024 and the May 19, 2024 council meetings and the June 30, 2024 called council meeting. This was seconded. All minutes were approved as presented.



There was no old business and no new business.

Under committee reports, Missions Chairman Leonard May reported that he has discussed some ideas with Pastor Gryff Carosiello and will be seeking a leader for an international mission team.

Trustee Chairman Ken Cope has done a walk-thru of the facility for beautification and updating. The children's hallway and Sunday school rooms need new flooring and doors. Vinyl plank is being considered both for the children's area and the downstairs of the CLC. Repairs need to be made to the foundation of the CLC which has dropped and the roof of the CLC where the screws gaskets have deteriorated. Estimates need to be secured for all costs.

The youth had a great mission trip to Pennsylvania. A cookout is being held tonight at the Lighthouse to thank Chris and Madison Butler for their seven years of service to the youth ministry. Chris is retiring as Youth Minister at the end of July.

Children's Minister Jennifer Boozer stated that 107 children were registered for Vacation Bible School which was held in June. August 11 is Promotion Sunday. If possible, a bowling trip is being planned for August 11. More volunteers are needed in the children's department.

Worship Chairman Janet Davenport said that they had a productive meeting but would like more participation from attendees of the contemporary worship service. Communion will be returning to intinction rather than individual cups. On Promotion Sunday she will try to recruit more acolytes and cross bearers as the schedule needs to be revamped. Golden Age Sunday is in October.

There was no report from Evangelism.

Discipleship Chairman Henry Dominick would like access to some of the yearbook activities on the church web site so the information is available to new members and attendees. A Bible study on Exodus will be held on Tuesday nights from August 6 through September 10. The group would like to see the cooking ministry small group form again.

Congregational Care leaders Gary and Tina Hooker would like to have a representative from the contemporary service on their committee. They want to do more visitation. The bereavement area has been very busy but the committee is not purchasing all of the food.

P/SPRC Chairman Emily Cope expressed a huge welcome to our new pastor, Rev. Gryff Carosiello. The committee is looking for a new youth minister; however, Kenley Beckham has volunteered to coordinate youth activities until a new person is in place. Youth meetings begin Sunday, August 4, at the Lighthouse. Since our pastor has decided not to live in the parsonage, any thoughts on the future of the parsonage should be shared with Emily Cope or David Mitchell.

Safety Team leader Hunter Shaw reminded members that safety is everyone's responsibility.

Communications leader Julia Roach said to let her know if something is needed. During the traditional worship service today a projector bulb blew. The tech team wants to have all bulbs replaced. There are some lights in the sanctuary that need replacing and speakers in the CLC need to be serviced. The worship services were not broadcast on the VBS Sunday and the youth Sunday for privacy for the children and youth.

Contemporary Worship leader Zack Waites is selecting music to complement the sermon.

Pastor Gryff Carosiello stated that he is excited to be here. He is holding listening sessions to see if there are any common threads throughout the church. He would like prayers for the church to find a single focus to see what God is calling us to be.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Gryff Carosiello at 2:30 pm. The next scheduled council meeting is Sunday, September 15, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. with committees meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Women in Faith

The Women in Faith will meet on Tuesday, August 6, at 3:00 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall. Lynda Counts and her husband, Rev. Jimmy Counts, will present the program on the Ruth Pugh Foundation which is a local ministry for people with special needs. Marcelle Ackerman and Wylene Smith will provide the snack. All women of the church are invited to attend!

JOY Group

Mark your calendars for Monday, August 12, for a meet and greet with Pastors Gryff and Rachel Carosiello and their son, Theo! The meet and greet will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a covered dish meal to follow. The meal will begin at 12:00 p.m. noon. Fried chicken will be provided. Please bring a side!

Nice to Meet You!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- August 1 - Chris Butler, McKenzie Nelson
Nate Bernardo
- 2 - Tina Hooker, Bethany Friar, Tyler Turner
- 3 - Brenton Jones, Campbell Nolting
- 4 - Andy Amicucci
- 5 - Terry Brown, Bennett Garner,
Ellie Kirkland
- 6 - Larry Wadsworth, Talen Senn
- 7 - Jerry Birchfield, Jasmin Davis
- 9 - Melonie Senn, Jozie Greenwood
- 10 - Paula Hamm
- 11 - Emily Graham, Wylene Smith
- 13 - Brittin Friar, Laura Beth Spangler
- 14 - Carla Dudek, Cameron Sease,
Samantha Shaw
- 15 - Ashtyn Perry
- 17 - Jimmy Counts
- 18 - Thomas Bumgardner III
- 20 - Tom Eustace, Tracie Turner
- 21 - Dewayne Blackburn, Jenny Harris,
Keitt Kunkle, Eddy Richardson
- 22 - Marilyn Sease
- 23 - Chandler Lever

- 24 - Amanda Jones, Ed Skinner,
Chuck Weatherly
- 25 - Christel Allred, Angie Garner,
- 27 - Kelli Fowler, Vicki Ruff
- 28 - John Butler
- 29 - Jared Jones, Joe Palmer, Candace Nolting
- 30 - River Lever
- 31 - Kendall Trotter, Ruby Miller

Happy Anniversary!

- August 2 - Ronnie and Devonna Summer
- 11 - Blane and Jody Garmon
- 19 - Lewis and Jane Shuler
- 20 - Andy and Rose Shull
- 21 - Hubert and Edith Kinard
- 22 - Charlie and Melinda Sease
- 28 - Keitt and Beth Kunkle
- 31 - Jared and Jessica Jones

Christmas is Coming! - Get Ready!

The choirs of Wightman Methodist and Grace Lutheran will begin their practice for the 2024 Christmas Cantata on August 21 with a preview of the Cantata. We would like to invite anyone in either congregation who would like to come and sing with us this year. We hope that you will consider joining in the fun fellowship in preparing for this musical. We have a new Cantata this year which includes new music and also traditional carols. We will gather Wednesday, August 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center at Grace Lutheran Church to listen to the Cantata. Please bring a finger food and join us! We look forward to seeing some new faces plus all you former singers! Choirmaster, Eddie Rivers



WIGHTMAN KIDS



Children's Sermons

- August 4 Communion
- 11 Henry Dominick
- 18 Ruby Point-Miller
- 25 Christy Bouknight



Children's Church

- August 4 Jesus is the Bread of Life
- 11 Follow Jesus: Our Perfect Role Model
- 18 Oh Be Careful
- 25 The Armor of God

Sunday, August 11

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11! During the morning worship services we will have Promotion Sunday and Backpack Blessings. Rising 1st and 6th graders will receive a Bible. Rising Kindergarteners, 2nd, 4th, and 6th graders will be moving to a new Sunday School class! Teachers and students, don't forget to bring your backpacks!!! Following the second service we will gather for lunch in the Old Fellowship Hall and then travel to Anchor Lanes to enjoy bowling!



August 2024

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
				1	2	3
4 Holy Communion 9:00 & 11:15 am Listening Session FISH Class Emmaus Luncheon 12:30 pm Youth 4:30-6:30 pm	5 Listening Session 6:30 pm	6 Women of Faith 3:00 pm	7 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am M&Ms 11:00 am Choir 6:30 pm	8 ← BEHOLD CONFERENCE AT MT. HOREB →	9 	10
11 Promotion Sunday Backpack Blessing 9:00 & 11:15 am Listening Session JC Class Youth 4:30-6:30 pm	12 JOY Group 11:00 am Listening Session 6:30 pm	13 	14 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am M&Ms 11:00 am Choir 6:30 pm	15 	16 	17
18 Listening Session Growth Class Youth 4:30-6:30 pm	19 Sisters on Standby 7:00 pm Listening Session 6:30 pm	20 	21 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am M&Ms 11:00 am Cantata Preview 7:00 pm @ Grace	22 	23 	24
25 Listening Session ABC Class Youth 4:30-6:30 pm	26 Sept. Newsletter Deadline 12:00 pm Loaves and Fishes 5:30 - 7:00 pm Listening Session 6:30 pm	27 	28 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am M&Ms 11:00 am Newsletter Staff 2:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm	29 Friends of God 5:30 pm	30 	31

**WIGHTMAN
METHODIST CHURCH**

Rev. Gryff Carosiello
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Church E-Mail: secretary@wightmanumc.org
Pastor's E-Mail: gcarosiello@gmcofsc.org
Web Site: www.wightmanmethodistchurch.org

Sunday Schedule

Traditional Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.
Contemporary Service – 11:15 a.m.



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**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

August Assistants Traditional Service (9:00)

CROSS BEARERS

August 4 - Betty Graham
11 - Melissa Freeman
18 - Charlotte Hargreaves
25 - Helen Mitchell

ACOLYTES

August 4 - Janet Davenport
11 - Bristol Freeman
18 - Brantley Counts-Wohnig
25 - Jackson Jones

USHERS

Mark Kirkland, Tommy Bowers
Tom Eustace, Larry Graham

TRUSTEE FOR AUGUST

Ken Cope

GREETERS

See Weekly Bulletin

LAY READERS

August 4 - Lewis Shuler
11 - John Hargreaves
18 - Bill Joiner
25 - Dianne Cotney

August Assistants Contemporary Service (11:15)

GREETERS

Chris Johnson

USHERS

Jimmy Boozer, Larry Graham
Daniel Floyd

LAY READERS

August 4 - Tristan Lever
11 - Daniel Floyd
18 - Will Morse
25 - Wightman Youth

Community Work Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 24, for a community work day! More information will be coming out about this in the weekly bulletin. Stay tuned!