

Wright's Word

The mission of Wright's United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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Pastor's Ponderings

I recently received my seminary news magazine "Inside Erskine" about all the news due west of South Carolina. At the young age of 56, I find myself turning to the memorial pages. Lastly the deaths of alumni from Erskine College & Seminary. Three classmates from South Carolina that I knew well, all died since January 1st and in today's culture of instant messaging and social media I was saddened to know I knew nothing of their passing. I got out last year's magazine and an even closer classmate had died in October 2015, I reflected on our great times we had in seminary, our Clinical Pastoral Experience (CPE) together at the Psychiatric Hospital, and even going to preach and lead Youth events at First UMC in Jessup, Georgia.

I also thought about professors and mentors I'd lost last year. Dr. James Fowler and his groundbreaking work of "Faith Development" reshaped all Christian and even public education in the 1980's around the world. Fred Craddock, the professor of preaching at Emory, and most influential teacher of preachness since Jesus perhaps died quietly in the north Georgia mountains at his home. Ask any current UM Pastor if they know the work of Fred Craddock -they will say yes. He was a humble, small in status, unassuming guy, who had to travel with a Coca-Cola bottle crate to stand behind many pulpits just to see over them. His gift of sharing faith stories from everyday life brought the parables of Jesus into our daily lives. Here is one I had never heard:

He had flown to Winnipeg, Canada, to deliver a series of lectures. His host had left him with the impression that, although it WAS the fall, it was early enough in the season NOT to need a heavy coat; so he didn't bring one. And based on his telling the story, I can imagine him saying to himself, "I hope my host was right," as a light snow began to fall after his lecture that first evening. Sadly, his host was not!

His phone rang early the next morning and his host was on the other line with the news of the freak winter storm had dumped FEET of snow across the city...shutting down the airport, thwarting public transit, and closing roads. His host could not even get to him... either to take him to eat OR to bring him food. He was stuck.

His host did say there was a greasy spoon not far away that might be open for local foot traffic. So Dr. Craddock bundled up and set out in search of sustenance, but his trek was worse than he's expected. When he

arrived, the place was more crowded than he'd imagined. But while there something happened.

Once he finally got a seat, he asked for a menu. The grumpy waiter (who may in fact have been the proprietor) said: "Why do you need a menu?" "We GOT soup!" Dr. Craddock asked: "What kind of soup?" And the answer came: "SOUP. We got soup? You want some soup?" And, graciously as ever, Dr. Craddock allowed as how that was just what he was going to order.....some soup.

The soup came. And it was awful. Grey and nasty. Altogether horrible. But HOT....so he warmed his hands and sat there, he admitted, feeling sorry for himself. Then the door opened, and a rush of cold wind assaulted everyone inside. It was a woman. Alone. And cold.

The guy in the greasy apron asked her what she wanted. She said WATER. So he brought it. Then he flipped over his little pad and asked her what she was ordering (as if it could possibly be anything other than soup). She said that all she wanted was the water. He said she had to order something of leave. She said all she wanted was the water and a minute to get warm. He asked: "What do you think this is, a Church?" And she insisted; "Either you're a paying customer or you're gone."

As he got louder, she rose to leave. And then that "something" that I said happened happened. As if on cue, practically in unison, every patron in the place (every PAYING patron in the place) rose to leave. And the proprietor, realizing—if not that he was wrong, at least that he was defeated—invited her...to stay.

Dr. Craddock says that when he returned to his soup and gave it another try, he discovered something: it had the unmistakable taste of broken bread and poured out wine.

In all of our daily relationships and interactions with peoples, God's word gives us Litmus test as to what behaviors identify us as children of God. It's in Micah 6: Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God. When we live those attributes, we are close to the Kingdom of God.

So may it be for You
Agape
Pastor Richard

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EXTRA, EXTRA read all about it....

Newsletter Articles Wanted

All Ministry teams are encouraged to submit newsletter articles each month, no matter how big or small. Please have any/all articles to me by the 12th of each month. If you submit your article(s) via email (shelleywumc@verizon.net), or disk-word format only- (preferred methods) then your due date is extended to the 15th of each month. Thank you for your time and articles. They are appreciated

WORSHIP

...his worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth. – John 4:24

Between Wrights and Edwards Chapel we offer three worship opportunities every weekend:

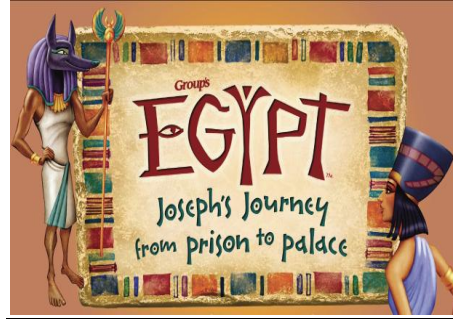
Sunday @ 9:30 AM – Family Worship at Wrights children's church is available following the Children's Message.

Sunday @ 11 AM – Family Worship at Edwards Chapel children's church is available following the Children's Message.

Saturday Night Faith Café is held 6:30 PM. Check calendar for dates.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

NURTURE



In the marketplace, kids and adults explore authentic Egyptian culture- right on the church grounds! Egyptian Zumba, crafting jewelry, boat building, essential oils, hieroglyphics, making a mummy, making bricks for Pharaoh's buildings and much more!

Vacation Bible School

Register now!

Sunday-Thrusday

July 10-14

5:30 PM -8 PM

Light supper served nightly

You can register by filling out registration and drop it off at the church or call the church office- 724-348-5718

Crew leaders are still needed for VBS. If you are able to help, please contact Laura Roberts or Savannah Rankin.

WITNESS/MISSIONS



Salkehatchie July 15-23 at Creekside SC.

Hammers and nails, hard work and joy will be traveling with all 8 going to roof, paints and construct for our friends in need! We will be praying for these missionaries during worship July 10th, 9:30. Michael, Tara, David, Mikey Reidenbaugh, Karissa Coffield, Abigail Robb, Suzanne Schafer and Pastor Richard. Thanks for all your fundraising and prayer support!

Health and Flood Kit Recipes

In response to the recent devastating floods in West Virginia, UMCOR is collecting relief supplies and we can help immediately—See Pam Mowry for more information.

Health Kit

- **1 hand towel**
 - 15 x 25 inches to 17 x 27 inches;
 - Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable.
- **1 washcloth**
- **1 comb**
 - Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches long;
 - No pocket combs or picks please;
 - Rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable with a minimum of 6 inches of teeth.
- **1 metal nail file or nail clippers**
 - No emery boards, please.
- **1 bath-size soap**
 - 3 oz. and larger sizes only;
 - No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content;
 - Do not remove from original packaging.
- **1 toothbrush**
 - Adult size only;
 - Do not remove from original packaging.
- **6 adhesive bandages**
 - ¾ inch to 1 inch-size;
 - Common household Band-Aids.
- **1 plastic bag**
 - One-gallon size sealable bag only.

Cleaning Bucket

5 gallon bucket with resealable lid

Do not use buckets that have stored chemicals such as paint or pool cleaner. Buckets from fast food restaurants or bakeries can be used if washed and cleaned.

liquid laundry detergent

two 25 oz. or one 50 oz. bottles only

liquid household cleaner

12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water

no spray cleaners

dish soap

16-28 oz. bottle any brand

1 can air freshener

aerosol or pump

1 insect repellent spray

6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover

1 scrub brush

plastic or wooden handle
no toilet bowl brushes
no kitchen or dish brushes

18 cleaning wipes

handi wipes or reusable wipes
remove from packaging
no terry cleaning towels

7 sponges

remove from wrapper
no cellulose sponges due to mold issue

5 scouring pads

remove from wrapper
no Brillo, SOS pads or any kind that will rust

50 clothespins

remove from packaging

clothesline

two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
cotton or plastic

24 roll heavy duty trash bags

30-45 gallon size
remove from the box

5 dust masks

2 pair disposable waterproof gloves

rubber or latex
remove from packaging

1 pair work gloves

cotton or leather
leather palms necessary

***All items must be new except for the bucket and lid.**

***All cleaning agents must be liquid and in plastic containers.**

No powders please.

Bill's Brigade

In honor and memory of beloved "worker in Gods vineyard" Bill Mowry, a new service/mission arm has been established to continue the hands of Bill and the humble legacy he has inspired. See Pastor Richard to be a part of Bill's Brigade.

Liturgist



July

Twila Hummel

Greeter



July

Stewart Diess



Brown Bag Lunch & concert series

Wednesdays noon-1 P.M. until
July 27! Come enjoy the historic

Wrights UMC hospitality with a \$5.00 homemade lunch and great music under the shade of patio umbrellas and Catawba trees. Music from Bach to bluegrass from local musicians and good friends and food surround you for an hour of enjoyment in the Village of Venetia!

FINANCE

Copies of the monthly Finance report is available in the Narthex.

DONUT SUNDAY

We **NEED** someone to be in charge of Donut Sunday (2nd Sunday of each month Sept. - May) beginning in September. In interested please see Kathy Jo.



Anniversaries and Birthdays

July

- 2 George & Alma Peterson
18 Lou & Becky Kernen

July

- 1 Mark Hammer
3 Maureen Jones
Kathy Jo Kernen
3 Phillip Schafer Jr.
5 Becky Kernen
7 Parker Durham
16 Hunter Jaap
17 Bob Hatfield
Zachary Jaap
Tyler Leech
19 Marsha Taylor
21 Bud Swingle
Jacob and Tyler Gereshenski
26 Kim Boehme
Alexis Marlett
Kelly Muntan

If your name is not on our list, or if the wrong name, date, or month is listed, please call the church office, and let us know. Thank



REGISTRATION FORM

(one form per family)

Name(s),
age(s) & gender: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____


Home telephone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Home email address: _____

Number of family members participating in Joseph's Journey VBS _____

Will parents be helping in any other areas of Joseph's Journey VBS? _____

Where? _____

 In case of emergency, contact: _____
Name and phone number

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

Home church: _____

Name of a special friend your child might like to be with: _____

Tribe name (for church use only): _____

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July 2016

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						1	2 6:30-7:30 PM Faith Café
3 9:30 AM Communion Sunday Summer Camp Commissioning	4	5	6 9AM Men's Breakfast 12-1 PM Brown Bag concert	7 11:30 AM-1PM Senior lunch at Venetia Community Ctr.		8	9 6:30-7:30 PM Faith Café
10 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School Salkehatchie Commissioning prayer	11	12	13 12-1 PM Brown Bag concert	14		15 Leave for Salkehatchie	16
5:30- 8 PM		Vacation		Bible	School		
17 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	18	19	20 12-1 PM Brown Bag concert	21 11:30 AM-1PM Senior lunch at Venetia Community Ctr		22	23
Salkehatchie		Mission			Trip		
24 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	25 6 PM Historical Society Picnic	26	27 12-1 PM Brown Bag concert	28		29	30 6:30-7:30 PM Faith Café
31 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School Interfaith Picnic at St. Francis							