

MarketPlace



The Newsletter of West Market Street United Methodist Church, Inc.

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Greensboro, NC



transformed
living

COMMITMENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Remember as a child waiting expectantly during the days leading up to Christmas? Hours felt like days, and days felt like weeks, until the moment finally arrived: Christmas morning. Who knew what wonders awaited? Likewise, since the first of September we have been headed toward another wonderfully special event: Commitment Sunday, November 9. As the conclusion to our experience of *Treasures of the Transformed Life*, that's the day you will be invited to "DIVE IN" and commit your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the church for the coming year. And just like Christmas morning, you have no idea what wonders await.

See, God always meets us where we are. Anytime we take a step closer to him, he responds likewise by stepping closer to us. When we're ready to say yes to all that God asks of us, we can know for certain that he will richly reward us for it, and continue to draw us closer into relationship with him. In the midst of uncertainty, anxiety, and even fear about the future, God wants to be with us in new, deeper and more meaningful ways.

So, even if you feel the tiniest bit apprehensive about taking the next step, rely on your faith to get you there. God wants us to trust him and believe what he promises, and when our eyes look to God, our hearts begin to change. Prepare to claim the treasure of a closer walk with God as we commit ourselves to the ministry of his church.

Finance Update

Our nation is in the midst of some very unsettling times in our economy. With the seemingly constant bad news coming from Wall Street many are feeling a general sense of unease and uncertainty about their finances, job status, retirement funds, and the ability to maintain their standard of living. We need to remember, especially in times like these, that God is still in control; the church is still here, and will be long after these difficulties are but a distant memory.

However, in the present, the church is also facing some uncertainties as **our cash position has become critical**. While our position is not as dire as some of our sister congregations, it is still a real source of concern about our ability to honor the commitments we have made to a number of ministries throughout our community and beyond. You are asked to please be in prayer about your giving to the church. Others are counting on us as never before to step out in faith and give out of the blessings we have received.

New Members

Welcome to the following who joined WMSUMC on October 19, 2009:

Francis Davis, 1409 Perkins Street, Apt F3 27401, joined by Reaffirmation of Faith

Molly and Jack Eisenman, 201 Elmwood Drive 27408 (275-1853), joined by transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro

Pam and Tim Tessier, 119 Green Valley Road 27403 (617-3544), joined by transfer from Christ UMC, Greensboro.

Yancey Wesson, 1809 Canaan Drive 27408 (554-6270), joined by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Our Mission: *The mission of WMSUMC is to glorify God as we make, nurture and send forth disciples of Jesus Christ.*

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR . .



There is so much insecurity in the world. Corporately we worry about personal safety, financial risks, terrorism and more. I arose Monday to news headlines that included: "Financial Crisis Spawns More Pink Slips," "Helicopter Shot Down in Afghanistan," and "World Markets Slump as Nikkei Hits 26-year Low."

And we haven't even spoken of our own personal fears and insecurities. One of our pastors directed me to a word from the Lord on that matter. I thought I would share it with you, as recorded in Psalm 46:

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
always ready to help in times of trouble.
- 2 So we will not fear when earthquakes come
and the mountains crumble into the sea.
- 3 Let the oceans roar and foam.
Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!
- 4 A river brings joy to the city of our God,
the sacred home of the Most High.
- 5 God dwells in that city; it cannot be destroyed.
From the very break of day, God will protect it.
- 6 The nations are in chaos,
and their kingdoms crumble!
God's voice thunders,
and the earth melts!
- 7 The LORD of Heaven's Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress.
- 8 Come, see the glorious works of the LORD:
See how he brings destruction upon the world.
- 9 He causes wars to end throughout the earth.
He breaks the bow and snaps the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
- 10 "Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be honored by every nation.
I will be honored throughout the world."
- 11 The LORD of Heaven's Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress.

Psalm 46 (New Living Translation)

God is our refuge and strength. Nothing further needs to be said. God bless you.

Dave Melton

WORSHIP

Sundays,
November 2 & 9
8:30 and 10:55 a.m.
Sanctuary
9:40 a.m.

Fellowship Hall
Sermon: Dave Melton
*The 11:00 A.M. Sunday Wor-
ship Service is broadcast
over
WPET 950 AM*

Tuesday Music

12:30 p.m. Sanctuary

November 4

Election Day

No Tuesday Music

November 11

Lyn Gentry, piano
Music for meditation begins
at 12:25 p.m.
A light lunch will be served
each Tuesday from
11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.
for \$5.00.

WCN Menu

November 5

Chicken tenders
Mac and cheese
Glazed carrots
Salad

November 12

Beef tips and rice
Mixed veggies
Salad
Children:
Pizza

Circles

Tuesday, November 4

Circle #4, 7:30 p.m., 2806 Watauga Drive, Mary Craven and Gina Mantura, hosts

Wednesday, November 5

Circle #7, 12:00 noon, Gathering Space at Church

Monday, November 10

Circle #1, 10:15 a.m., Church Library

Circle #2, 10:30 a.m., 2702 Lake Forest Drive, Jane Reynolds, host

Circle #5, 7:00 p.m., Gathering Space at Church, Diane Deck and Olive Spivey, hosts

Tuesday, November 11

Circle #6, 10:00 a.m., 1008 Country Club Drive, Barbara Sanders and Leenette King, hosts

Wednesday, November 13

Circle #8, 6:30 p.m., 3710 Worthing Court, Robyn Hayes, host

Advent Candlelight Dessert is Wednesday, December 3

Plan now to attend the Advent Candlelight Dessert on Wednesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The service will begin following the regular Wednesday Church Night Dinner. This 35-year tradition at WMSUMC is sponsored by the Worship and Wednesday Church Night Teams. Many of our members have grown up attending this service and have found it to be a meaningful and special beginning to Advent.

Don't miss out on this long-standing tradition. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, December 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Reflections from Treasures of the Transformed Life

Transformed Through Kindness

"It does not require a challenge to those we meet to change their beliefs, but rather to show God's love and be genuine in doing this."

- Earl Betts

Transformed Through the Need for Community

"When I am not focused in an interesting study group that holds me accountable, my Bible reading and spiritual growth slide, and then my prayer life tends to slide. I need others to hold me accountable to read and study Bible passages every day and work on applying them to my life."

- Susan Hutchinson

We will be looking for more and more stories and reflections of how God is actively at work in our everyday lives. How is God transforming you?

Glenn Draper Concert on December 21

On Sunday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m., the Glenn Draper Singers will present a concert of Christmas music in the WMSUMC Sanctuary. There is no charge for this event. The community is invited and an offering will be received.

Overnight housing, a light breakfast, and early return to the church on Monday morning are needed for these musicians. Anyone who is able to house one or two singers is asked to contact Bill Ellison at 275-4587, vm 17.

Come and be refreshed, renewed, and inspired with this special Christmas music event.

Our Church Family

As of October 26, 2008

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to **Bill Simpson**, on the death of his sister, Frances Simpson Best, of Greensboro, on October 18, 2008.

New Baby

Welcome to *Stella Jane Lanier*, daughter of Margaret and **Taylor Lanier**, born September 27, 2008. Paternal grandparents are **Patsy and Elton Smith**; and paternal great-grandmother is **Nancy Neese**.

Youth November Schedule

All 6th – 12th Grade Youth are encouraged to bring a friend and check out Youth Ministry during November. Our mission in Youth Ministry is to glorify God as we make, nurture and send forth teenage disciples of Jesus Christ.

Here's what is happening: **LIFE Groups** every Sunday morning at 9:40 and 10:55 a.m. provide an opportunity for youth to study God's Word together in smaller groups.

UMYF Sunday nights from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. provide an opportunity to enjoy dinner and fellowship with one another while discovering what it means to follow Jesus Christ in today's world. There will be no UMYF on Sunday, November 30, because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Opportunities for November 2—15

Leak Chapel open daily 11a.m.-2 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

8:00 am Laity in Prayer, 319
8:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:40 am Worship Service, FH
9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
10:55 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:30 pm CPR, GS
4:00 pm WMS Instrumentalists, 317
5:30 pm UMYF, Coffee House

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

7:00 pm Partners in Prayer, Library

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

5:30 pm MarketBell Ringers, 316

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:00 am Sewing Group, 109
3:30 pm Sing-Along at Evergreens
4:00 pm Mission Possible Kids, 304D
5:15 pm WCN Dinner, FH
5:30 pm Cherub Choir, 316
5:30 pm Joyful Noise Choir, 317
6:30 pm WCN Program
6:45 pm Chancel Choir, 317

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

6:30 pm 9:40 Worship Rehearsal, FH
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery, 405

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

9:00 am Companions in Christ Retreat

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

8:00 am Laity in Prayer, 319
8:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:40 am Worship Service, FH
9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
10:55 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00 noon Proyecto Abrigo Mission
Team Orientation, FH2
5:30 pm UMYF, Coffee House

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

5:30 pm Support Staff Committee, CR

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

11:45 am Tuesday Lunch, FH
12:30 pm Tuesday Music, Sanctuary
1:30 pm Older Adult Team, CR
5:30 pm Finance Committee, CR
5:30 pm MarketBell Ringers, 316
7:00 pm Spiritual Formation Team, CR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:00 am Sewing Group, 109
10:00 am Staff Meeting, CR
4:00 pm Mission Possible Kids, 304D
4:00 pm Art Committee, Library
5:15 pm WCN Dinner, FH
5:30 pm Cherub Choir, 316
5:30 pm Joyful Noise Choir, 317
6:30 pm WCN Classes
6:45 pm Chancel Choir, 317

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

12:00 noon Evangelism Team, CR
6:00 pm Christmas Store Planning Team,
GS
6:30 pm 9:40 Worship Rehearsal, FH
7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery, 405

Move your clocks **BACK** one hour before going to bed Saturday, November 1.
Daylight Saving Time ends this year on Sunday, November 2.

West Market Street United Methodist Church

302 West Market Street
Post Office Box 870
Greensboro, NC 27402-0870
Telephone: (336) 275-4587

www.wmsumc.org

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Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity

Saturday, December 6, 5:00 p.m.

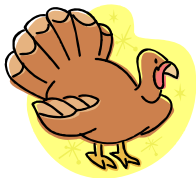
On Saturday, December 6, at 5:00 p.m., the Chancel Choir will present *Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity* by New York composer Anne Phillips. Conducted by Alice Ann Johnson, members of the choir will be joined by Mark Freundt, piano; Matt Kendrick, bass; Danny Frye and Cesar Oviedo, percussion; Lynn Grissett, trumpet; Mark Mazzatenta, guitar; Nancy McCracken, trombone; Dale Reid and Robert Faub, saxophones. Jazz arrangements of familiar carols are included and you will see the three kings as you have never imagined.

The jazz work will be preceded at 4:00 p.m. by a holiday concert of sacred and secular music by the MarketBell Ringers. Childcare will be provided and an offering will be received.

On Sunday, December 14, the Chancel Choir and Orchestra will present *Christmas Reflections: A Carol Festival*, at the 8:30 and 10:55 a.m. services. This worship service of familiar anthems and carols will feature the reflective poetry of Ann Weams. Church members, friends and the community are invited to attend these meaningful worship services of music.

Opportunities for Outreach

It's Turkey Time...so don't be one. Buy one and volunteer too! Participate in a WMSUMC Tradition



Join the "Turkey & Fixin's" Thanksgiving Food Drive and Day of Sharing. Congregation members are asked to donate food and money to purchase turkeys for 300 local families. This will provide people in need with all the ingredients necessary to make a Thanksgiving meal for themselves.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Turkey Team:

Help us collect the Turkey Bucks we need to purchase all the turkeys.

- Stamp Turkey Buck Collection Envelopes. **Great "Do-at-Home" Idea!*
- Help unload turkeys upon delivery on November 21.
- Help unload food donations on Sunday mornings November 2, 9, & 16.

Food Prep Team:

- Attach shopping lists and Turkey Buck collection envelopes to food collection bags. **Great "Do-at-Home" Idea!*
- Help sort the collected food. (November 18 & 19 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.)
- Shop for any "fill-in" food needed to complete the bags (flexible times on November 20-21).

Participate in the "Turkey & Fixin's" Phone Bank (Thursday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m.)

- Volunteers are needed to call the food drive recipients to remind them about the Day of Sharing, provide any information they might need, and answer any questions. This will take place at the church and food will be provided.

Day of Sharing Team: (Saturday, November 22 from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

- Greet
- Check-In
- Distribute food and turkeys
- Drive vans to transport Food Drive family recipients to and from Washington Elementary School.
- Make home deliveries to the elderly and infirm.

Opportunities available for the whole family! Flexible volunteer shift times!

Food bag and turkey donation shopping lists will be distributed to all congregation members beginning November 2. The \$10.00 needed to purchase a turkey is now included on the shopping list. *Everyone is strongly encouraged to shop!!!* This is part of the giving experience and it is where the blessing is. It is also a fun family experience!

Participate in Operation Christmas Child for Samaritan's Purse



**Shoe Box Instruction Brochures
Now Available!**

Please return your wrapped shoe box to the collection box in the Gathering Space or the Fellowship Hall

No later than Sunday, November 9!

CROP Walk Update

The participation of all walkers and sponsors in the October 19 CROP Walk is appreciated. WMSUMC has raised \$8,947 toward our \$10,000 goal. Contributions will still be accepted by contacting Mary Belle Gilbert, 288-4664. Let's make our goal!

Needed!
Mobile Meals substitutes
Two hours a month—three months a year
To volunteer call Earl Betts, 274 3950

Support the Greensboro District-wide UMC Christmas Store!

What is a Christmas Store?

WMSUMC is joining 17 other United Methodist Churches to provide 200 families in need with an opportunity to “shop” for Christmas presents for their children. The presents will be gift-wrapped while the shoppers wait, hot beverages will be served, and a prayer team will be on hand for those who would like someone to pray with them.

While the parents shop, their children will make Christmas gifts for their parents, learn about the Christmas story, and experience the love of Christ in a fun and meaningful way.

Don't miss the opportunity to participate in this special Christmas experience!

- Sort the items
- Set-up the Store
- Help in the store
- Check-in families
- Be a personal shopper
- Wrap Presents
- Serve beverages
- Help in one of the children's activity rooms.



Visit the Outreach Table in the Fellowship Hall or in the Gathering Space Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or whenever you are at the church.

Where and When Will the Store be Open?

Saturday, December 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at WMSUMC.

Who Will We Serve?

Families who qualify for emergency assistance at Greensboro Urban Ministry as well as the families of Washington Montessori school students and students from the Newcomers School.

Be a Beacon of HOPE to the Hopeless Join a HOPE Team

What is a HOPE Team?

A HOPE Teams consist of four to six highly committed volunteers from local faith communities who focus on providing practical, emotional and spiritual support to friends (individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness and who have recently been placed in permanent supportive housing). HOPE is provided through faith-based teams, who offer compassionate, non-judgmental care to their friends. Our model wraps care and support around a friend in permanent supportive housing, building on the successful model used to assist persons displaced by Hurricane Katrina. HOPE Teams are based upon the concept of building a relationship, rather than sponsorship and adoption. The idea of relationship emphasizes that the ability for change is inherent in all people and can be self-activated.

HOPE teams are strictly to help our friends continue in their development and to provide a team of professional staff who will assist them with their housing, medical, mental health, substance abuse, and budgeting needs.

What are the Objectives of a HOPE Team?

- To expand a friends social network and connection to the community.
- To provide encouragement as friends develop long-term, realistic personal objectives
- To offer support services and resources to friends
- To assist individuals in evaluating and improving their quality of life
- To invite individuals to participate in the community (e.g., church, civic organizations, etc)

For more information or to volunteer, contact Elizabeth Montgomery at 275-4587, vm. 16 or emontgomery @wmsumc.org.