

Unity Washington & Wesley United Methodist Church

January 2012

These are Blessings?

Matthew 5: 1-12

The Bible, if it is full of anything, it is full of surprises. From beginning to end, scripture's account of God's dealings with human beings takes odd twists and turns. It can be said the Bible is a book which teaches people never to be surprised at what God can and will do.

I thought about David vs Goliath. I don't know about you, but if I were a betting person, I wouldn't put my money on David over Goliath – whether their weapons be knives, spears or even a sling-shot. In the Bible, the hand of God always stacks every deck.

The Beatitudes are no exception for they, too, surprise those paying close attention. Look at those who are blessed and happy! "Blessed are the poor in spirit?" "Blessed are those who mourn?" Blessed are those who are persecuted?" These are the blessings which make people happy? NO doubt, those in Jesus' day were as confused or surprised as we are today by these kind of beatitudes.

There is, however, a key to interpret these sayings of Jesus. All that Jesus says is in light of the coming of God's reign. This reign is ushered in, ironically, by Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. Only in the light of Jesus inaugurates God's new age, do these blessings make any kind of sense whatsoever.

Gene Sickel reports on the (Jewish) faith of Academy Award winning Marlee Matlin of "Children of a Lesser God" and her deafness: "Specifically, she was asked if she believed in God, a God that could allow an 18 month baby to become deaf." Marlin replied, "Yes, I believe in God that answers prayers, maybe not every prayer. Because if I hadn't lost my hearing, I wouldn't be talking to you now. I wouldn't be going to the Academy Awards." Sickel: "Her eyes glowed as she signed her life-affirming answer..."(a story in the Chicago Tribune).

Blessings in God's realm are of a different order than those in our world. It takes a special discernment and deep faith to understand the world where God rules. God's logic gives us all grace and mercy. This indeed is a miracle. God gives what we need – not what we deserve. May God supply all our needs in 2012.

In Ministry Together,
Glenn H. Lyburn



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MYF News and Notes

As I write this, I reflect on this past year. The MYF had a very busy 2011, with lots of activities including Chicken and Dumpling dinner, Valentines movie, Kings Dominion, Rehoboth retreat and so much more. I want to take this time to thank the number of volunteers that help make our youth group so vital and why it continues to grow. If it were not for all of the extra hands, we would be limited to fewer activities. Thanks again for all your help.

Time to get the New Year Rolling!!!

God has blessed us in so many ways and the New Year is no different! January 6th through January 8th, Youth Rally here we come! 36 people, 2 condos and loud music! Let's get things rolling in 2012 with worship, fun and fellowship!

The New Year's Schedule!

January 28th - Chicken and Dumpling Dinner (Snow date: January 29th)

February 11th - Concert with 33 Miles - Chesapeake College 7pm
Free

February 25th - Dance - 7 to 10pm - In need of Chaperones to make this happen.

March 1st - 4th - NDHS Senior Class Play - Times Vary





WORDS FROM WESLEY UMC



The Wesley UMC Adult Choir presented their monthly worship service at Genesis Health Center in Seaford DE on Sunday afternoon, December 18th. Rev. & Mrs. Lyburn and son Adam joined the choir for this Christmas cantata for the residents. Calvin offered 3 Christmas solos as well. Small gifts were given to the residents at the end of the program. The following selection is from that service.

WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN

(tune of How Great Thou Art)

When Christ was born in Bethlehem's lowly manger,
When angel hosts brought tidings from on high.
The shepherds gazed in fear and awesome wonder
While songs of joy were wafted from the sky.

The heavens rang with tidings of great wonder,
A King is born - a gift to fallen man.
Go search for Him, you'll find Him in a manger.
Go tell the world of God's salvation plan.

Then shepherds came and bowed in humble worship,
While angel hosts were hovering very near.
The world slept on, but in a lowly manger
Hope overcame and love cast out all fear.

Refrain:

Go tell the news, the blessed gospel news.
A Savior lives - a King is born.
Go tell the news, the blessed gospel news.
O praise His name - a King is born.

Attention Performers!

The Annual Variety Show to benefit the Unity-Washington Scholarship Fund will be held on Sunday, February 19th, 2012, at 7pm. This year's theme is "Around the World in 80 Days." Auditions will be held on Feb 5th after the worship service.



News and Notes

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Community Prayer Breakfast

Monday – January 16, 2012 – 8:30AM
Hurlock UMC, 502 South Main Street

The Speaker is Mr. Vaughn Evans, Sr., Principal – North
Dorchester Middle School. The mIMes for Christ from
Unity-Washington will also share a presentation. This event
is free, but seating is limited so please R.S.V.P. by January
10th to 410-943-3445.

WINTER GRADUATES AT SU

Congratulations to the following graduates from our church family who received college degrees during the December commencement exercises at Salisbury University: James Jensen, Jamie McMillan, Emily Phillips, and Beth Laramore. They will be honored at Unity-Washington UMC in May with other students on our Graduate Recognition Sunday.

God sent us a Savior

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator.

If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist.

If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer.

But our greatest need was forgiveness, SO GOD SENT US A SAVIOR.

5 awesome Christian New Year's Resolutions.

By: Pastor Duke – Taber's Truth Christian Blog

Christian New Year's Resolution #1 – Read the red and Pray for the power.

Instead of getting involved in another read the Bible through in a year program how about changing tactics? Read all the words printed in red in a red letter edition Bible? The red letters are the words of Jesus Himself. This can be done easily in 1 month's time so you can do it 12 times in 1 year.

Christian New Year's Resolution #2 – Skip a meal a week and give the money you save to the poor.

We all hear of people making New year's resolutions to lose weight or eat healthier. Well how about making that goal something that actually has spiritual significance. In Isaiah, the prophet talks about a fast that God has ordained. He tells us to not only go without eating but to give the food we would have eaten to the poor. Take one meal, maybe breakfast or lunch, and skip it. Take the \$5.00 that you save once a week and give it away to a 3rd world country or your local food bank.

Christian New Year's Resolution #3 – Let God be in control of your appointment book.

Many Christians make New years resolutions to win more people to Jesus. To be more faithful in evangelizing their friends and families. Instead of making a goal of evangelizing, how about making the goal of starting every morning with the simple prayer for God to make you sensitive to His divine appointments throughout the day? Instead of limiting your goal to just evangelism that "you make an effort about", make your goal to be more sensitive to "Divine appointments that God is making an effort about"?

Christian New Year's Resolution #4 – Make biblical prosperity your goal.

Many people at New Year's make resolutions to get a new job, make more money, buy a house or car, ect. They focus their attention on the world's view of prosperity. Biblical prosperity centers in on the health and wholeness of your spirit and soul. Instead of taking on a second job just so you can have more toys, work on becoming content with what you have so you can spend more time with your children. Instead of taking a job that makes you work nights just so you can get a promotion, how about thinking outside the box and get your promotion at home by being the greatest spouse, parent, neighbor you can be?

Christian New Year's Resolution #5 – Random words of kindness and mercy.

In the book of James, the author writes that good water and bitter water should not come out of the same well. He is talking about the words we speak. This year how about making a resolution that you are going to say random words of kindness and mercy to 1 person every day. As the Psalmist said in Psalm 19 "May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, My Rock and my Redeemer.

Long Term Prayer List

Please call Debbie at the office 410-943-3222 or email UWUMC@yahoo.com for changes to prayer list

Adeline Mock
Alice Bennett
Anne & David Ball
Annette Smith
Betty Nagel
Beverly Morris
Brad Brown
Brenda Basham
Brenda Coulbourne
Brittany Prager
Bunky Bell
Carol Bramble
Carroll Pinkett
Carroll Sneed
Cate Cordrey
Chris Foxwell
Christine Wands
Curt Stephens
Daniel Murray & Family
David Jones
Dick Wilson
Donald Jones
Donna Ball
Dorotha Hallowell
Dorothy Jones
Eddie Lankford
Eileen Jones
Ellie Everton

Ferguson Gemeny, Jr
Gary Sheets
George Sherman
Ivy Sherman
George Sherman
Henry Dockins
Howard Blake
Ivy Sherman
Jackson Bradley
James McMillan
Janet Womach
Janice Moore
Jean Bramble
Jean Knodle
Jeanne Johnson
Joanne Dayton
John Jones
Jean Hollowell
Joyce Watson
Julie Lowry
Larry & Marsha Kile
Leonard Gadow
Lisa Short

Lloyd & Joan Fooks
Louise Neal
Margaret Jones
Megan Smith
Melvin Adams
Merritt Pritchett
Mimi Brown
Nancy McCulley
Nancy Ober
Olivia Nossick
Peggy Eisenhower
Roberty Stafford
Ronnie Nichols
Samantha Wright
T.J. Hess, Jr.
Terry Kokochak
Timmy McMillan
Traci Kimball

Sympathy List

Marlene Ervin
Carl Jackson
Mary Shriner Gordy
Carolyn Herbert



Out Reach Idea for January
Take some soup to a friend or neighbor.



January Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Peggy Bradley | 25 Dick Corkran |
| 3 Jeff Fooks | Ted Kokochak |
| 4 Bryon Richardson | Richard Jones |
| 5 Dottie Wilson | Lucas Reed |
| Caroline Wilson | 27 Betty Nagel |
| 8 Jeff Robinson | 28 Judy Lankford |
| 10 Mary Collins | Karl Thomas |
| Esther Trice | Michelle Jackson |
| 13 Richard Koski, Jr. | 29 Chris Henry |
| 14 Beverly Hurlock | Julie Lowry |
| Jennifer Wheeler | Monica Kile |
| 15 Dorothy Lane | 30 Norma Wilson |
| 16 Suzanne Tyndall | Julie Todd |
| Wanda Ballas | 31 Maryanne Williams |
| 17 Megan Willey Brown | Donald Williamson |
| 19 Alex Eberspacher | Mary Lou Brown |
| 22 John Willey | Kyla Diggs |

January Anniversaries

- 1 Amanda and Jeff Robinson
- 2 Melissa and Nicholas Manzione
- 10 Melanie and John Windsor
- 13 Terry and Ted Kokochak



JANUARY 2012 MISSION MOMENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I would like to thank everyone for their help for all the things we did in 2011! We had a very successful year! Some major things we did were the Angel Tree Ministry, Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes, The College Boxes, and donating to the Toy Shop which was held in mid-December at Hurlock Elementary. Also, thanks to everyone who donated to the Glove and Hat Tree in the Fellowship Hall!

I would like to commend Susan Collins for her help with the Angel Tree Ministry. This was a very successful mission locally because everyone enjoyed the party right before Christmas! I would like to thank the mIMe team for all their help with this event. If you have any ideas for missions we could do locally or worldly, please write them on the lines below and give to Debbie Sherman, Calvin Collins, or Susan Collins

Sincerely,

Calvin Collins - Head of Missions

Unity-Washington UMC Mission Ideas

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

~ January 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45 Wesley – 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM – Sunday Nite Lite	2	3	4 6:30 mIme Practice 7:30 Adult Choir Practice	5	6 MYF to OC Youth Rally	7 MYF to OC Youth Rally
8 8:45 Wesley – 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM - MYF	9 7:00 – Admin Council	10	11 6:30 mIme Practice 7:30 Adult Choir Practice	12	13	14
15 8:45 Wesley – 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM - MYF	16 8:30AM - Martin Luther King Breakfast	17	18 6:30 mIme Practice 7:30 Adult Choir Practice	19	20	21
22 8:45 Wesley – 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM - MYF	23	24	25 6:30 mIme Practice 7:30 Adult Choir Practice	26	27	28 3:00 – 7:00pm Chicken & Dumpling Dinner
29 8:45 Wesley – 9:30AM - Sunday School 10:30AM – U-W Worship 6:00PM - MYF	30	31	Notes:			