

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

OUR MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS is United Methodist Family Services. We help them put hope into the holidays for children and families in Virginia. Making a check out to Boulevard UMC and designating it UMFS is one avenue of participation. Walkers, joggers, and runners: Consider taking on the Nutzy Rotary Funn Run. Proceeds from this December 6th 5K event will benefit UMFS' Courage to Succeed program. Registration remains open!

Boulevard United Methodist Church



If we truly honor the Jesus of the Kingdom of God, what we encounter is a spiritual visionary afire with the living Spirit of God, animated with the intense passion of the prophet, enlightened with the deep perception of the mystic, and grounded in the slime and texture of the living earth. Truly this is God with the people, the Emmanuel in a fiercely real way.

Diarmuid O'Murchu

November 23, 2014

321 N Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23220
www.boulevardumc.org

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

Order of Worship

(UMH) - The United Methodist Hymnal
(TFWS) - The Faith We Sing

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit *Rescue the Perishing*

Words of Welcome

*Call to Worship *Psalm 100* **UMH 821**

*Hymn *Come Ye Thankful People Come* **UMH 694**

Prayers of the People

Joys
Litany
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Reading *Ephesians 1:11-23*

Anthem *All Glory Be to God*

Gospel Lesson *Matthew 25:31-46*

Sermon *"A King Among Us"*

*Hymn *The Voice of God is Calling* **UMH 436**
Tune: Webb (UMH 514)

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

*Doxology (94 UMH)

*Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn *Freedom is Coming* **TFWS 2192**

*Benediction

A LITANY FOR CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Christ the King, you have been made head over all things for the Church:
May we worthily live as your body in our world. Work your great power in
and through us.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, you gather all the nations of the world to yourself: Bless the
world's suffering with your everlasting mercy. May the oppressed be fed
with your justice.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, it is from your hand that all our fed: Inspire righteousness in
all people that the hungry may be fed and the thirsty given clean water to
drink.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, you care for those in prison:
Give us hearts for all those who are incarcerated.

Where there is crime and violence in our city, offer your peace.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, you are good: We pray you seek the lost, bind up the
injured and strengthen the weak.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, your faithfulness endures from age to age: May all your
saints, at work and at rest, know the hope to which you have called us and
the riches of your glorious inheritance.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

NURTURE

caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

Matthew 25:31-46 (CEB)

³¹ “Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

³⁴ “Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. ³⁵ I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

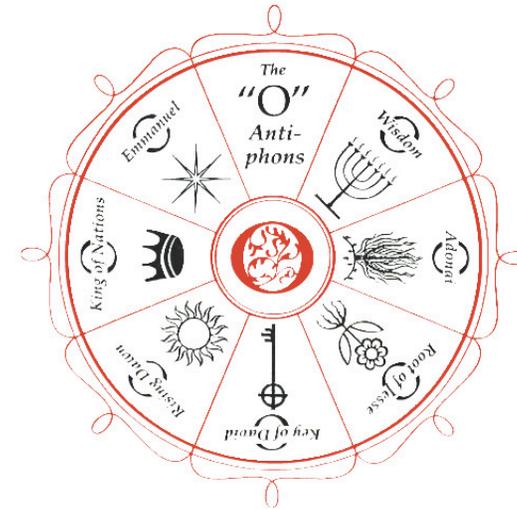
³⁷ “Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? ³⁸ When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

⁴⁰ “Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² I was hungry and you didn’t give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn’t give me anything to drink. ⁴³ I was a stranger and you didn’t welcome me. I was naked and you didn’t give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

⁴⁴ “Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn’t do anything to help you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer, ‘I assure you that when you haven’t done it for one of the least of these, you haven’t done it for me.’ ⁴⁶ And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life.”

○ REX GENTIUM—○ King of the Gentiles (or nations)—is third in the ○ Antiphons. Each “○” is a title for the Messiah based on Isaiah’s prophecy. These are a way to tap into the fullness of what Christians have longed for in this season.



For today, Christ the King Sunday: What might it mean to ask God to come as ‘Ruler of nations’?

WE ARE PRAYING for Jamie and Lanier May, Shane, those in contact with Ebola, and Irene Wagner. Here, per your request, we publish a prayer list. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate. Or, leave a message with the main office.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. Next Sunday, Isaiah 64:1-9 will be central.

OUR NURSERY is not staffed. However, the door to "Noah's Ark" is an open one. This space is on the first floor. Please feel free to exit and return at any point during this morning's service. We welcome infants and young children in the sanctuary. With them, we are more complete.

PLEASE USE SIDE AISLES in the sanctuary this morning. That is not to say the center aisle is off-limits to all people! It is, however, an acknowledgement of the Advent wreath’s purposeful placement.



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

¹⁸ WHAT IS THE HOPE...WHAT IS THE RICHNESS Ephesians I

Inheritance is a tricky word. 19th century industrialist-philanthropist Andrew Carnegie proclaimed the underbelly. America was better than aristocratic chains of wealth. Or he wanted it to be; which is why he pleaded with his compatriots to take their surplus and do something, *anything*, for not-their-heirs.

56% of current retirees in this country expect to give inheritances. About 10% of you are bristling because how dare I frown on you and yours! [More on that statistic another time.] Not frowning. I am already off to peer into the heart of the Paul.

When Paul speaks of inheritance, he points to that which we receive—that which is sheer gift. It has nothing to do with what any one person earns and everything to do with what not one of us deserves (but is opened to us anyhow).

The kind of thing that gets left to you, by nature of your identification with God and the people of God, well, it's not treasure at all, I've heard 'em say. We get things like the chance to encourage developing servant leaders. We gain the prayers of prior generations. We are made rich with the holy stuff that I cannot readily rattle off.

What are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints (v.18)? The moments our baptism saves us from operating some other kind of way in this word. The day a brother or sister sojourner does the thing that makes all the difference and with not a trace of ulterior motive.

Our inheritance can be characterized as both now and later, both personal and social, both a blessing and a longing to be a blessing. In other words: If it is a treasure chest, the lid is opened to us along the way of faith. The contents are valuable to those who come to value what Christ values.

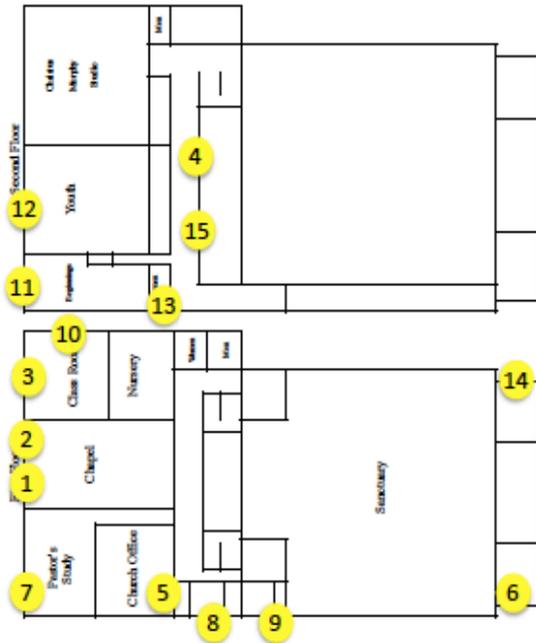
Christ values those who say “let’s” to a lifetime of bodybuilding. Thus, Nick Deere in our midst. No, he is not committed to his personal musculature development. Yes, he intends to make a life of serving Christ’s Church. No, I’m not going to be away this Sunday. Yes, he is Jim Somerville’s intern.

I should tell you: He’s a Baptist. And you should tell me: From our treasure chest, stranger, more surprising things emerge—glory, hallelujah! All of us together, then: Tell us, Nick, of the hope to which you have been called. Preach, preacher. We need the good news.

Ephesians I:11-23 (NRSV)

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



Left:
 Candles dedicated last year honoring Estelle Burgess (2), Roy Burgess Sr., Tammy Estep, Edythe Harlow, Frank Hazel, Hattie Johnson, Edward Kennedy, Helen Kennedy, Ernie Martin, Ann Monroe (2), Fred Monroe, Jim Raines, and Karen & Mark Suter.



ADDING TO THE LIGHT



Your Name:

Attached is payment for

- Single candle \$12.00
- Replacement bulbs \$8.00

A person whose light you are honoring:

This year, five additional candles have been dedicated. We are well within reach of lighting twenty of our windows! **Due: November 24.**