

## NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Amanda O'Hara, June Robinson, the Woodall family, the family of Jim Kay, Brent Monroe and family, JJ and Lindsay, Colburn Dize, the family of Jack Little, Jamie and Lanier May. Here, per your request, we publish a list. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. If you'd like to prepare:

Next Sunday—4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

I John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

COMMUNION DELIVERY is a real and delightful thing! If you know someone who wishes to receive the sacrament but cannot be with us in worship, please encourage him or her or a primary care-provider to contact our church office



Flowers are given with fond memories of Roy Burgess  
on the occasion of his niece's birthday.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

## Boulevard United Methodist Church



Who are the children of God?

One way of answering the question is to say— All who recognize the rest are children of God.

Another way of saying it is— God does not participate in our sibling rivalries.

(You may have to live awhile to come to terms with this.)

- Brian Zahnd -

April 19, 2015

321 N Boulevard  
Richmond, Virginia 23220  
[www.boulevardumc.org](http://www.boulevardumc.org)

# Order of Worship for the Third Sunday in Easter

11:00 AM

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

\* Please stand, as able.

## Gathering

Call to Worship

Luke 24:36b-48

Introit

*He Touched Me*

Greeting

Words of Welcome

\*Hymn

*How Can We Name a Love (1-3)*

111 UMH

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Interlude

## Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

Scripture Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

Epistle Lesson

1 John 3:1-7

\*Prayer

Insert

Sermon

Rev. Rachel G. May

\*Hymn

*You Are Mine*

2218 TFWS

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

*My Song is Love Unknown*

\*Doxology (94 UMH)

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (895 UMH)

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

577 UMH

\*Blessing

\*Choral Benediction

*Sent Out in Jesus' Name*

Remain standing in a receptive posture until the singing ends. Go out with joy!

## OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

**{Outward}**

THE FRUITS OF OUR MOST RECENT FOCUS are two checks to local organizations addressing hunger and food system issues, totaling \$1,000. One is FeedMore-bound. Another is headed to Shalom Farms (United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond). Both are signed: Love, Boulevard UMC.

WHAT'S NEXT? Our two-pronged contribution to Annual Conference; this includes Kits for Conference. Relief-supply kits help provide care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis and are distributed by the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Rachel is seeking a leader for this first prong.

The second prong pertains to a goal set by Bishop Young Jin Cho: \$50,000 for continued partnership with the Methodist Mission in Cambodia, \$50,000 to aid the Ebola-ravaged countries of Sierra Leone and Liberia, and \$50,000 to support projects working with the poor in the Danville and Eastern Shore Districts. You can help Boulevard do its part through cash or checks made out to BUMC, memo-lined "Annual Conference Offering".

## WITNESS

*telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like*

**{Together}**

A LOOK AT LIFE TOGETHER in numbers. Here we are in the first quarter.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts	Savings Transferred
Jan 1 – March 31	50,452	45,731	17,100



## Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

**41 HAVE YOU ANYTHING HERE TO EAT?** Luke 24

He died. He rose. He had a hankering for fish.

Broiled fish, Scripture says. And before the powers that be make haste to clarify that there is no such thing as hungry Jesus, let me just say: I like adore this Jesus.

*Y'all are fisherman are you not? Share with a brother.*

“He took it and ate in their presence (v.43).” Just like that. He cut right through their unease, that fog of life having changed drastically, by making it known that God was still God—a lover of their company and their gifts.

Some days I get to watch as another works and I am struck by how they do what they do: Calvin in the churchyard these past couple of weeks.

These were trees for which pruning meant two kinds of saws and a bag of other tricks. It had been a while. The rain started to fall. Mother Earth had impressed upon us both that now was the time. And so it was onward, upward, downward. I muttered all sorts of prayers.

About the time my heels began to catch on the inside of sopping wet pant-legs, it hit me. He was serving up some kind of delicacy to the Lord. Jesus had asked if him if he had anything to share and Calvin was readying that ‘piece of broiled fish’ (v.42).

In this way, Jesus has had all kinds of things to eat. When Joshua adjusted his schedule, when Roc washed our dishes, when Donnie brought arugula, when Meredith gifted the mugs, when David hauled the limbs, when Alexa preached, when the electrician-alongside-Ruth sorted out the crazy wiring at the Annex—his description, not mine—I choose to see these as responses to the Risen One.

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of Easter, receive the peace that comes with the divine presence (v.36). Give God the prettiest filet and to yourself, the benefit of a doubt. You and I might be those from whom a piece of what we have to share would be received with utmost delight.

Acts 3:12-16

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

I John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Luke 24:36b-43

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

**WHY DO WE OBSERVE NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY?** Within the Body of Christ, every person, every culture has unique gifts to refresh the Church. While the contributions of Native people are not necessarily more important than the contributions of others, Native people are among the poorest and most overlooked of society and yes, in the Church.



To invite people to fully participate in the life of the body we must first know who they are. Native American Ministries Sunday affords the opportunity of Native and non-Native United Methodists across the denomination to become aware of the lives, gifts and ministries of Native people.

Proceeds from Native American Ministries Sunday offerings support Native ministries, provide educational assistance for Native Americans in the form of scholarships, and assist with the establishment of urban Native ministries.

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds,  
and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me.

**I come before you, one of your children.  
I am small and weak.  
I need your strength and wisdom.**

**Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold  
the red and purple sunset.**

**Make my hands respect the things you have made,  
my ears sharp to hear your voice.**

**Make me wise, so that I may know the things  
you have taught my People.**

**The lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.**

**I seek strength not to be superior to my brothers,  
but to be able to fight my greatest enemy, myself.**

**Make me ever ready to come to you,  
with clean hands and straight eyes,  
so when life fades as a fading sunset,  
My spirit may come to you without shame.**