

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Joe Morgan and family, Jane Frisa and incarcerated residents of metropolitan Richmond. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

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

Next Sunday—Laity Sunday

Job 38:1-7

Psalm 104

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

GIVING GROWS you and us.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
Sept. 1 – 26	10,290	7,026

Boulevard United Methodist Church



But you, O God, have saved many before us.
Even us, you have saved.
Your kindness has rained down to silence our sisters,
to return us to our friends,
to make the sun shine on the soccer field,
to comfort us,
to save us from adolescence.

From A Psalm of Lament for the Courts of the Junior High, Rev. Dana Cassel

October 11, 2015

Order of Worship for 20th Sunday After Pentecost
11:00 AM

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit *Would You?*

Welcome and Greeting

*Call to Worship *Psalm 22:23-31*

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

*Hymn *Come Christians Join to Sing* 158 UMH

Prayers of the People
Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Reading *Job 23:1-9, 16-17*

Anthem

Gospel Reading *Mark 10:17-31*

*Hymn *Be Still My Soul (1-2)* 534 UMH

Sermon *Rev. Meredith McNabb*

Reflection *Everything Wears a Little Thin*
audio recording, Rev. Drew Willson

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *I Greet You, Sure Redeemer*

*Doxology (94 UMH)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending Forth

*Hymn *Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know* 163 UMH

*Benediction

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

OCTOBER IS FOR PET FOOD. Get dollars for local animals to Boulevard. And we'll get the goods to Meals on Wheels. [Meals on Wheels provides nutritious meals to our homebound neighbors. Volunteer drivers also deliver food for the pets that bring companionship to these homes.]





Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

²⁴ **HOW HARD IT IS** Mark 10

We were talking about the two very different kinds of change: Technical and adaptive. If you can believe it, this was over lunch with other church folk in Nottoway County. At one point I said: “No, it’s not time for a bake sale.”

Why a lemonade stand is not a bake sale is where I am heading. First, some definitions: Technical change involves doing things differently. Adaptive change involves thinking differently about *what* we’re doing.

Adaptive change is what is asked of us when tweaking just won’t do “because it [tweaking] squanders precious time and resources in an effort to make the old system work instead of recognizing that what is needed is...”*

Humans have long insisted that we know what we need. Most of us are not unlike the man who once ran up to Jesus. “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He knew what eternal life was and hoped Jesus would help him tweak a thing or two so as to get him there.

But doing better at more of the same wasn’t what was needed. God was looking for kingdom-enterers—people to live their lives awake to God and connected to each other. This would take divestment.

As it turns out, the man of Mark 10 wasn’t looking to be a part of a community that embraced and developed adaptive change (v.22). He took the Kodak, Borders, and Blockbuster way home. He could not yet see that there are times in our lives when a technical fix won’t do; in fact, it merely distracts us from doing the real work, which is inherently adaptive.

One among us will be out front following worship, this Sunday. This is no bake sale, friends! She won’t be squandering precious time and resources in an effort to make something work that’s not working. Hannah will be selling lemonade for the love of God and neighbor.

Let her be a sign to us of all that we *don’t* need. Let her point us to Jesus who still lovingly pleads for us to shed the things that keep us from following. How hard it is (v.24)...but into an era of adaptive change, a child shall lead us, indeed.

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

* Ron Heifetz and David Lose.