

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

A CLEANING THE TRAILS opportunity: Here is a chance to honor September's creation focus in early November. [This one's for you, advance notice folks.] Help is needed throughout the year at multiple James River Park System sites for overall cleanup and beautification. A team of 10 of us, for November 5, from 9 am to noon: That would put us in a position to do some real creation-caring. Speak with Rachel to schedule yourself there. The forecast for that day reads "sunny" and 56 degrees ☺

WITNESS

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

{Together}

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS happens here on Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 am. New this year: [Photographer](#) Meagan Moore. Her ideas for us include snapping a variety of candids and several shots of each participant, however many legs they may or may not have, during the blessing, so as to supply one or two for each "blessee". After the event, she will process the photos and make them available for download from an online gallery.



Boulevard United Methodist Church



Today's readings capture what it means for us to become dwellers and not just inhabitants, residents, tourists, or visitors... Dwelling, taking the time to know and care for the neighbors and the land, mattered to the prophet.

- Taylor Burton-Edwards

September 25, 2016

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).

An Order of Worship for 11:00 AM

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit *God of the Sparrow*

Greeting

*Call to Worship

Pastor: How good it is to dwell in the shelter of the Most High!
People: To abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

*Hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful* UMH 147

Prayers of the People
Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Psalter *Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16*

Time with Children

Scripture Lesson *Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15*

Sermon Rev. Alexa Slonin

*Hymn *When We Are Living* UMH 356

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *You Who Watched*

*Doxology (94 UMH)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* TFWS 2223

*Benediction

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Ed Gooch, Jay McKinney, Sissie Kerns, Chris, & Amy Kerns, those who feel the loss of Jane Frisa, Delight Andrews, Casey Bowman Miles, Jim Rickards, Alex & Melva Slonin. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD LITURGICALLY, with a bit of the civil calendar mixed in:

October 2	A Season of Saints begins World Communion Sunday Charge Conference
October 9	Kari Smith, singer-songwriter
October 15 (Saturday)	Blessing of the Animals
October 23	Harrison Koontz, piano
October 30	Holy Baptism: Bruce Hannay VCU Horn Ensemble Mark Holt, cello
October 31 (Monday)	Halloween
November 1	All Saints Sunday Christine Ertell, flute
November 13	Extended Advent begins Harrison Koontz, piano
November 20	Christ the King Sunday
November 24	Thanksgiving
November 27	Year A of the lectionary cycle begins Happy Christian New Year!
December 24 (Saturday)	Christmas Eve Love Feast 10 AM Rafael Scarfullery, classical guitar
December 25 (Sunday)	Christmas Day
December 31 (Saturday)	New Year's Eve

Please note that the building will be closed on October 10, November 11, November 24, November 25, and December 26 for state/federal holidays.



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

5 AND ADD TO WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED - Proverbs 1

The author is making a case for why we ought to give these Proverbs the time of day: *Hey reader, I know you are wise, but you would be wiser still for listening to these words (vv.1-7).*

It got me thinking about the lifelong learners in our midst. I still want to be one, when I grow up.

Allow to get my wannabe on—to tell you what I learned these last six or seven days. Did you know that the winner of America’s Got Talent sings in the choir for a United Methodist Church? Ten minutes ago, I did not. She might be taking a hiatus with the million dollars and all, but 12 year-old Grace and the VanderWaal family love them some church up there in New Jersey.

How about the word “profession”? I hadn’t given it much thought. When I hear “profession” it is evidently fair to hear “profession of faith” because the word originated in the time when ministry, medicine, and law were the professions. To commit to any of those professions was to declare faith in the practice of those disciplines. Thanks, Dr. Sondra Wheeler.

Union Market in Church Hill is awesome: Gained that knowledge a couple of days ago. They were right, the folks that told me to go and see where your parishioners work. I didn’t drop in on anyone’s cubicle but I got close enough to re-realize that it is a beautiful thing to experience your people not on your turf.

My plants might count as “that person who is always happy to see you”. That much dawned on me as the Richmond District clergy were being invited not to pastor in a self-serving, I am here to get *my* needs met kind of way. I said the plant bit out loud about the same time as the person next to me said, “Oh, that’s definitely my dog”.

Speaking of which, Greyhounds dig; the dog breed, not the bus line. And by dig, I mean, dig. My young grass has suffered yet another setback. Also related to the home front, some future mothers-in-laws out there get their own key and spend hours and hours, week after week, working on the apartment into which a son has not yet moved. I am learning that I grow too easily annoyed with some people.

That may well be the trouble with learning. You learn what else you need to learn. But stick with it, friends. The alternative isn’t much of an alternative at all.