

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 area shelters and service-providers. Elaine Kennedy and Linda Crowder are point persons for this effort. To donate actual cans or bags, stop by our Blessing of the Animals and look for the designated bin. After October 15, donated food can be dropped off on a cart outside our main office.

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 candid 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.



A LOOK AT OUR LIFE TOGETHER in numbers.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
September 1 - 30	\$15,287	\$8,166

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Boulevard United Methodist Church



"Amid the various ecclesial, ethical, and liturgical reforms of the sixteenth century, Martin Luther was once asked to describe the nature of true worship. His answer: the tenth leper turning back."

- David Lose

October 9, 2016

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

An Order of Worship for 11:00 AM

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

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit *When the Saints Go Marching In*

Greeting

*Call to Worship

*Hymn *Morning Has Broken* UMH 145

Prayers of the People
Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Reading *Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7*
Solo Kari Smith

Gospel Lesson *Luke 17:11-19*

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

*Hymn *I Love You Lord* TFWS 2068

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory *How Can I Say Thanks?*
*Doxology (94 UMH)
*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn *Are Ye Able* UMH 530

*Benediction

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for The Gooches, 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	A Season of Saints
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 6	All Saints Sunday Christine Ertell, flute
November 13	Extended Advent begins Harrison Koontz, piano
November 20	Christ the King Sunday
November 24	Thanksgiving
November 29	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

GUESTS: Before worship begins or during the offering time, consider sending a text message to boulevardumc@gmail.com. Include your name and snail-mail address and we will do our darndest to acknowledge your gift (of presence) to us. What you share we handle with care!



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

⁷ SEEK THE WELFARE OF THE CITY - Jeremiah 29

A telling of Methodism's story without using the words "housing", "education", or "employment": No such thing. Wesley was a reformer and why Wesley set out to reform his Church had much to do with the condition of the masses in 18th century England, for whom houses, schools, and workplaces were a hot mess.

Early Methodists understood the interrelatedness of these arenas in a way that remains relevant if not convicting. In Richmond, Virginia 2016, it is The Office of Community Wealth Building making the case. "Housing, education, and economic development cannot easily be separated from one another."

The Office of Community Wealth Building is working to help our city pursue a goal of reducing overall poverty by 40% and child poverty by 50% by 2030.

While it is easy to assume that no innovation is happening in or near City government, it is irresponsible to throw fuel on the fire of discontent from an uninvolved, do-not-want-to-be-involved distance. It may also be unbiblical.

Jeremiah prophesies to those who have every reason to see themselves apart from their city's conditions. *Babylon is not their problem. They did not ask to reside there.* Yet the word from God for God's people is clear: Seek Babylon's well being. "Pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare (v.7)."

How it is with housing, education, and employment in our city matters. Try as we might to buffer ourselves from the effects of chronic poverty, it cannot undo God's desire for us to work for the flourishing of all, and it, our self-securing, will not make a way for the one in four living in poverty to rise.

I am not accusing anyone of not caring. Heck, an analysis of my calendar this week would render me most guilty. I am inviting us to name how we are currently contributing to improvements in housing, education, and employment; and then to celebrate that, given how biblical it is to celebrate. [See Luke 15.]

I suppose I am also wondering aloud about becoming a friend to The Office of Community Wealth Building (or to an equivalent thereof where you are). Good company in the trenches may be hard to find, but it need not be hardly ever offered.

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with skin diseases approached him. Keeping their distance from him, ¹³ they raised their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, show us mercy!”

¹⁴ When Jesus saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” As they left, they were cleansed. ¹⁵ One of them, when he saw that he had been healed, returned and praised God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He fell on his face at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Jesus replied, “Weren’t ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ No one returned to praise God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then Jesus said to him, “Get up and go. Your faith has healed you.”