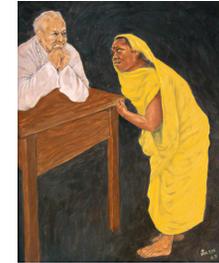


Boulevard United Methodist Church



"What if we applied the same principles we apply to getting customer satisfaction to seeking justice for ourselves and others?"

- Alyce McKenzie

October 16, 2016

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

On the Cover: Claver Jesuit Ministry, Prayer Gallery, "Luke 18".

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 *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*

Greeting

*Call to Worship

*Hymn *Praise with Joy the World's Creator* Insert

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

First Reading 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

Anthem *Lamp of Our Feet*

Gospel Lesson Luke 18:1-8

Sermon "Enhearten Them" Rev. Rachel G. May

*Hymn *Here I Am Lord* UMH 593

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory
*Doxology (94 UMH)
*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn *We Are Called* TFWS 2172

*Benediction

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Garland Johnson, Ken Thompson, The Gooches, and Jay McKinney. 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.

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!

A LOOK AT OUR LIFE TOGETHER in numbers.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
October 1 - 8	\$3,240	\$3,820

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. Between October 16th and 31st, donated food can be dropped off on a cart outside our main office.

ALBERT HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL needs volunteers to distribute weekend food packs to students. Because many students rely on meals provided through their school during the week, AHMS is now part of an initiative that sends food home with children on Friday afternoons. If you can help on Fridays from 1:45 to 3:00, contact PTA president Anne Ewald Anne.Ewald@berkadia.com or teacher Melinda Lawson mlawson@rvaschools.net.



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

⁵ FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY - 2 Timothy 4

Complete the ministry to which you have been called (The Voice). Devote yourself completely to your ministry (International Standard Version). Carry out your ministry fully (New Revised Standard Version).

It is neither ridiculous nor self-important to claim a ministry in first person. *I lead our pet food ministry. We have a ministry with animals.*

While Elaine performs her teller duties, she recalls their reaction to the last load of food and supplies. The folks over at Richmond Animal Care and Control: “They were tickled to death.”

Kitty litter gets used. Collars and leashes go home with the newly adopted dogs and cats. The food goes more quickly than we can imagine. It is grace upon grace to have someone show up and do the re-stocking. It is merciful when that someone is not asking for something in return.

So Elaine and Linda go when they can. A call to Meals on Wheels can mean a run on Ziploc bags, gallon-sized. [You can blame those two the next time shelves are empty.] Over there, out of the FeedMore facility, volunteers prepare lightweight-don't-take-up-a-lot-of-space-in-the-delivery-vehicle servings of pet food for the households they service.

I asked Elaine what she would say to those who may wonder, why bother—why cut the coupons, why shop multiple stores, why load and unload? True to form, her answer was part cutting to the chase and part pure compassion. “You know, it’s a healing thing. These animals are the only companionship that some people have.”

What more was there to say? Something, it turns out. A final tally on Sunday’s offering could wait. “Besides. They’re God’s creatures too.”

What is the ministry to which you are called, friend? Shun not the possessive pronouns. If you cannot name one, or if you are between ministries, by all means, make a ministry out of rallying for another’s. That’s called being a sister, a brother, Christ’s Church.

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”