

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 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.



Flowers are given to glorify God
for the love of Bruce, on the day of his baptism.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Boulevard United Methodist Church



Thus the vocation of the baptized person is a simple thing: it is to live from day to day, whatever the day brings, in this extraordinary unity, in this reconciliation with all people and all things, in this knowledge that death has no more power...

- William Stringfellow

October 30, 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

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Gathering Music | | VCU Horn Choir |
| Words of Welcome | | |
| Introit | | |
| *Call to Worship | | |
| *Hymn | <i>This is the Spirit's Entry Now</i> | UMH 608 |
| Prayer | | |
| Interlude | | Mark Holt, cello Chris Patch, keyboard |



Proclamation and Response

Holy Baptism BRUCE ROBERT HANNAY
Please join in a sung blessing to complete our sharing in The Baptismal Covenant.

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me." (Refrain)

Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live. (Refrain)

Scripture Lesson Luke 19:1-10

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May
*Hymn *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry* TFWS 2051

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory
*Doxology (94 UMH)
*Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (895 UMH)

Sending Forth

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| *Hymn | <i>Give Thanks for Life</i> | Insert |
| *Benediction | | |
| *Parting Music | <i>We'll Understand Better</i> | |

NURTURE

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

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Sissie Kerns, 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 |
| 2016 3 rd Quarter | \$50,920 | \$35,831 |



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

19 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD - Ephesians 2

This child has not chosen this moment and by virtue of his having-done-nothing-and-incapable-of-earning-anything state, the clearest, most pure definition of grace will rise among us. Liken it to the smell of Sweet Autumn Clematis or Frasier fir—unmistakable, *even if* hardly describable.

Though we might say things like “welcome to the family of God”, listen carefully and you will hear this very thing being uttered by the one who cannot speak. It’s funny what will lift us out of the amnesia...with a little water, an overdressed baby, a small army of loved ones in the house for the occasion...we remember.

Depending on the cast of characters involved, a baptism is heavy on cleansing imagery. Hear this: With those waters God bathes them in their original goodness. With those waters we enact what we hope this child will do over and over again, throughout his days—to wash away the half-truths about ourselves and about others that are proffered by all manner of wolves in sheep clothing.

The Sacrament of Baptism calls forth our hidden wholeness. We glimpse, if just for a moment, how the various Emperors have no clothes on. We dare to see through the eyes of the child or through the eyes of God, between which the line is thin.

Some of us might see how “the powers and principalities would hold less sway over our lives if we refused to collaborate with them. But refusal is risky, so we deny our own truth...(P. Palmer)”.

Our truth, Paul writes, is that we are the household of God. The apostles and prophets of old laid the foundation. In Jesus, whose heart fills the house and whose ways shape our ways, we are being built into a dwelling place for God.

Though I worry, I am not at all worried about the state of this little man’s soul. When we went about the work of setting a date, I was thinking about Boulevard and about the larger truth and beauty of this thing called the household of God.

So Bruce, give us a tour. Reawaken us to the purpose of tables and towels, to the spirituality of the kitchen and the garden. We are listening. We’re all yours~