

# Boulevard United Methodist Church



The flowers are given to thank God for Ben May's thirty-one years  
on his birthday month,  
by those who celebrate him still.



On the Cover: A Gathering of Spirits, Jan L. Richardson

**G**od of the generations,  
when we set our hands to labor,  
thinking we work alone,  
remind us that we carry  
on our lips the words of prophets,  
in our veins the blood of martyrs,  
in our eyes the mystics' visions,  
in our hands the strength of thousands.

- Jan Richardson

## November 6, 2016

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 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Greeting

\*Hymn *For All the Saints (1,2)* UMH 711

\*Remembrance

O God of both the living and the dead,  
we praise your holy name.  
Thank you for the sacred ties that bind; us to one another,  
and to those we love, but see no longer.

*A bell rings. Additional candles are lit.*

**Almighty God, by your Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. Amen.**

\*Hymn *For All the Saints (4,5,6)* UMH 711

Prayer

Duet *Christine Ertell, flute  
Joshua Kennedy, piano*

## Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

Scripture Lessons *Ephesians 1:11-23  
Luke 6:20-31*

\*Hymn *Blest Are They* TFWS 2155

Sermon *Rev. Rachel G. May*

Solo

## Thanksgiving and Communion

Our service continues with a liturgy for celebrating the Lord's Supper. You may offer tithes and gifts as you come forward to share in the Sacrament. The altar rail is available for any who may wish to kneel after receiving.

Offertory

*Communion Song*

Prayer

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn *Sing With All the Saints in Glory (1-3)* UMH 702

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

## WITNESS

*telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like*  
**{Together}**

GIVING BEARS WITNESS to a caring and sharing God; so too does offering your time (via SignUp Genius or by calling our office).

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
October 1 - 29	\$15,115	\$9,471

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY has to do with this historic profession of faith: "I believe in the communion of saints." Some Christian congregations celebrate the communion of saints as a high holy day on the actual day (Nov. 1) or on the Sunday that precedes or follows All Saints Day. Others make a season of it, stretching the observance out over several Sundays. We acknowledge the fellowship between the living and the dead, honor the departed faithful, and bear witness to those who make a transformative difference in our lives.

## 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](mailto: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!

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: November 7. Join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury (1600 Westbrook Ave.). We gather at 11:30 in the 6<sup>th</sup> floor common room.

## OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

### **{Outward}**

OCTOBER'S MISSION FOCUS involved local pets, area animal shelters, and human service-providers. Thank you for 296 pounds of food plus 70 pounds of kitty litter, 6 food bowls, 7 collars and \$600. Meals on Wheels and Richmond Animal Care and Control are so very grateful for your compassion made real in much-needed goods and financial gifts.

Mid-November to mid-December's focus will be United Methodist Family Services. We help them put hope into the holidays for children and families in Virginia. Stay tuned.



## Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

<sup>18</sup> **ENOUGH LIGHT TO SEE** - Ephesians 1

When I struggle to write out my own words, it is either time to take a week off or to spend more time with others who have had something to say. Sometimes you can find your own voice as you experience others exercising theirs.

This is one of those weeks. I am back where I started, with Jan Richardson, her reflection on this this time of year, and still feeling the feeling best described as “yes – that – what she said”.

*For many years, the trinity of days encompassing Halloween, All Saints’ Day, and All Souls’ Day, has been a thin place in the landscape of my year.*

*The ancient Celt believed that the veil between worlds became especially permeable at this time. In something of that spirit, I find that these days offer an invitation to ponder the past. Not with a desire to return to it, or to second-guess it, but with a mindfulness of what has gone before...*

*It’s this kind of impulse that gave rise to the feasts of All Saints and All Souls. Recognizing the ancient habit of looking to the past at this time of year, the church created new ways to remember the dead with practices in which we can still hear the echoes of the ancient celebrations.*

*Each culture that observes these feast days continues to add their own layers of meaning and mystery. My own observance of these days usually includes setting aside some time for quiet, for remembering, for prayer, for doing some writing that’s just for me. And good food, of course. And lighting a few flames.*

*What stirs your memories in this season? Who are the folks, living or dead, who linger close in these days? Whom do you gather with?*

The entry with a blessing,

*May this week offer you a thin place and a gathering of good spirits.\**

Yes – that. See the great gathering. Number the saints. Among them are these, your celebrated ones, whose light will soon shine through Boulevard’s windows.

### CANDLES DEDICATED IN 2013

Estelle & Roy Burgess Sr.  
Tammy Estep  
Edythe Harlow  
Frank Hazel  
Hattie Johnson  
Alice & Hereford “Pappy” Johnson  
Edward Kennedy  
Helen Kennedy  
Ernie Martin  
Ann & Fred Monroe  
Jim Raines  
Karen & Mark Suter

### IN 2015

Alecia Crowder  
Dodd Crowder  
Alec Cobb  
Walter O. Harlow  
Bertie B. Howlette  
Barbara L. McGhee  
Mike Ponder  
Ruthie Ponder  
Leslie & family  
Kim & family  
Those in Need



### IN 2014

All People Everywhere  
Margaret Arey  
Aunts & Uncles  
Boulevard’s Choir  
Herman Burton  
David & Tonya  
Quirio Del Cid  
Margaret Gregory  
The Hammacks  
Mary Martin  
Gene & James “Jimmy” May  
Melissa McIntire  
Barbara L. McGhee  
Rachel  
Sue Stewart

## Ephesians 1:11-23 (CEB)

<sup>11</sup>We have also received an inheritance in Christ. We were destined by the plan of God, who accomplishes everything according to his design. <sup>12</sup>We are called to be an honor to God's glory because we were the first to hope in Christ. <sup>13</sup>You too heard the word of truth in Christ, which is the good news of your salvation. You were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit because you believed in Christ. <sup>14</sup>The Holy Spirit is the down payment on our inheritance, which is applied toward our redemption as God's own people, resulting in the honor of God's glory.

<sup>15</sup>Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that <sup>16</sup>I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, <sup>19</sup>and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength. <sup>20</sup>God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, <sup>21</sup>far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. <sup>22</sup>God put everything under Christ's feet and made him head of everything in the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of Christ, who fills everything in every way.

## Luke 6:20-31

<sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup>"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup>"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. <sup>24</sup>"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. <sup>25</sup>"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. <sup>26</sup>"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

<sup>27</sup>"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.