

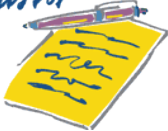


NEWSLETTER

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

Vol. 36, No. 11 November 2023

*From the
Pastor*



Racial Justice

Continuing what God started in me

As I've confessed from the pulpit, Paul's Letter to the Philippians has a special place in my heart. So, it's not surprising that, as I began to write this article, two quotations from that epistle popped into my mind. First, from chapter 1, verse 6: "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ (NRSV)." And second, from chapter 2, verses 12-13: "Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure (NRSV)."

I'm not exactly sure when issues of racial justice became a passion for me. I could point to incidents in my early childhood in the segregated South, in my later childhood in cosmopolitan London or in imperfectly integrated Kirkwood, to growing awareness in my university or seminary years. I can say that racial justice was a deep concern by the time of the birth of our second son in 1995, when we chose the name "Sean Martin" in part to honor the memory of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I can't point to exactly when God began the work toward racial justice in me, but I am confident that God began that work and will "bring it to completion."

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Give thanks to the
God of heaven.
His faithful love
endures forever.

Psalm 136:26



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Christmas boxes for the Food Pantry

We are responsible for supplying 60 bags of morsels for the food pantry Christmas boxes! You can drop off morsels at the end of the hall. This includes chocolate chips, peanut butter chips, butterscotch chips, white chocolate chips, or whichever flavor of morsels you find.

These are due by November 26th!

If you'd like to donate other items to the pantry (because you don't work for a dentist), you can bring in canned tomatoes or canned potatoes.



A little community time!

You know the Addams Family, right? As summer turns to fall, which slides into the deadly quiet of winter, all is right with the morbid, macabre world of Gomez, Morticia, Fester, Grandma, Wednesday, Pugsley and Lurch. And it seems only appropriate that the Hillsboro Theater production bring them to life with our very own Marshall Bedell filling the very large shoes of Lurch!

The Addams Family, a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and it's every father's nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.



There are four offerings for this play, and you can catch one or all of them and show your support for Marshall!

- Thursday, November 30th at 7 PM
- Friday, December 1st at 7 PM
- Saturday, December 2nd TBD
- Sunday, December 3rd at 2:30 PM

Just a reminder

We'll be decorating the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 5:30 PM. You and your family are welcome to join us and hang ornaments and greenery throughout the church. There will even be some soup or

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Parsonage updates

We are ready to consider renting our parsonage at 119 South Thomas. Jim Foster and I met with Terry Fischer, RE/MAX BEST CHOICE, who is the only person suggested as someone to handle the renting of our property. She toured our parsonage with us and will be suggesting what amount we might set for rental. We asked her for a copy of her contract and the fees she would expect to receive. The trustees will be meeting November 1 at 8 a.m. to move forward with the rental process.

After we gather all required information, we must call a Charge Conference. Our District Superintendent, Bruce Baxter has talked with Pastor Chris and said that Rev. Tisha Green, pastor at Festus United Methodist Church will officiate. Other requirements for this called Charge Conference are a 10 days notice prior to the meeting, a letter from the district superintendent, a letter from our pastor, a motion to rent the parsonage from the trustees and minutes and attendance from the charge conference. Copies of the lease template from the Missouri Conference have been given to the trustees for their consideration. The officers of the local church are required to be in attendance at the conference.

Marietta J Martin, Trustee Chair

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pizza for dinner. We'll be sure to have something to eat since we're Methodist and can't pass up a chance to gather and not have food! It is a fun tradition to begin our Advent season with some fellowship and decorating.

In other news, the DeSoto Public Library is currently recruiting Oasis volunteers. These are tutors that volunteer about an hour each week at either Vineland or Athena Elementary. If interested, please reach out to Karen by contacting the



Trivia Night Success

A lot of people showed support for Night to Shine during our annual Trivia Night fundraiser. We had a great turnout at the event, and several people put in a lot of hours prior to the event to make it all possible. Special thanks to Debbie DeGeare, Bryanna Alexander, Beth Ross, Patty Briguglio, Fred DeGeare, Frances Deaton, Angela Logan, Terri Dallas, Angela Lucas, A.J. Brown, and Danielle Moskop for helping to organize and work the event.

We also had some local sponsors who make the event possible!

- B.F. Mahn & Sons, Inc.
- D&S Fencing Co., Inc.
- DeSoto Chamber of Commerce
- First State Community Bank
- Hopson Lumber Co.
- Johnston Construction
- Kozzy's on Main
- Kummer Family Dental
- Meurer Insurance Agency
- Mosher Bay
- My Place Residential/My Place Too
- Ron Null
- SD&R Automotive
- Senator Elaine Gannon
- State Farm Insurance

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Konnnect: Worship

In this four-week series, elementary students will learn how to worship God honestly, with their whole heart, for who He truly is. Worship is an expression of the relationship you have with your Creator through Jesus Christ. When your spirit is renewed at salvation by the Holy Spirit and you begin to understand the truth of how great God is, how small you are, and that you're actually forgiven and friends with Him, your heart can't help but worship God. Worship is a genuine expression of the love, admiration, and respect you feel in your heart towards God. Live a life of worship that puts God first in every situation, and check yourself to see when you may be getting distracted or losing your focus on God as the only recipient of your worship.

Each Wednesday, a lesson will appear on our website. You can also find lessons in the private Facebook group. Just contact the church if you need assistance accessing the lessons.



Music Notes

The Chancel Choir will be full-time starting in November. Our online services are going smoothly, and it will be good to add the choir to that service as well as in church. I hope everyone will enjoy the services.

Because of time constraints, we will not be doing a Christmas Cantata this season. We will add a piece in the Advent services. And as always, if anyone would like to sing in the Choir, please see me after any church service.

Larry Bay, Music Director

Mosher Bay dates:

- November 9 @ Coyol 6 to 8 PM
- November 16 @ El Lobo Rojo 6 to 8 PM
- November 18 @ La Pachanga in Bonne Terre 6 to 8 PM
- November 24 @ La Pachanga in Herculanum 6 to 8 PM





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- Sunnyhill, Inc.
- The Lowry Law Firm
- Twin City Toyota
- Werner C. Stichling & Associates, Inc.

Many businesses and organizations donated to the raffle and silent auction as well, and we are grateful for these donations that help make the event a little more money and also provide some added fun for the trivia players.

Thank you!

Loads of fun!

Raising funds for
2024 Night to Shine
with Country
Hoedown Trivia
Night.

\$4,700 raised

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Of course, I'm also mindful of Paul's admonition to "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Because of the multicultural nature of our Baptist association in Washington State and of the City of Lynnwood, where I served as a City Council member and president, I was given ample opportunities to pursue training and real life experience in multicultural ministry and anti-racism, including training with the Kaleidoscope Institute, close work with the Black Caucus of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, the formation of Lynnwood's Taskforce on Police Relations with Communities of Color, and the institution of two "daughter" congregations at Good Shepherd Baptist Church, known as Lynnwood International Fellowship (immigrants from Africa and Asia) and Iglesia Bautista el Buen Pastor (Latina/o immigrants). The pandemic slowed down those last two programs, but they continue to grow and gain steam.



Pastor Chris with beloved colleagues from the Lynnwood Taskforce on Police Relations with Communities of Color, Juan Perez and Wally Webster

DeSoto, of course, is overwhelmingly Euro-American (White), so I didn't expect much opportunity to exercise my ministry in this regard through St. Andrew's. But I'm delighted to say that the Missouri Annual Conference is starting training for a group of pastors and lay leaders to become "Culture Coaches," and I have been selected for this training! I will be in Columbia for initial training on November 3 & 4.

Beyond that, I cannot say yet what time will be required but Conference personnel have assured me that coaching assignments will not interfere with my work for you.

I am feeling doubly blessed by the warm reception Connie and I have received at St. Andrew's and by this new opportunity to follow what God has put in my heart. Thank you for all the ways you continue to support me.

Blessings,
Pastor Chris

Blessings,
Pastor Chris

Develop a heart of generosity

How can we embrace gratitude as a spiritual practice? Paul gives us good advice.

Give thanks in all circumstances: Paul says give thanks IN all circumstances, not FOR all circumstances.

In tough times, we can be grateful for what is going well and for the resources, relationships and faith that will help us through.

Pray without ceasing: Pray in the shower, in your car, on the beach, on your lunch break, at a stop light, in a grocery line. God hears all your prayers. Pray nonstop.

Rejoice always: Look for everyday celebrations every day. Do you have hot water? A car? Clean socks? food? Friends? Rejoice.

For a disciplined approach, keep a journal of your daily thanks, or a "gratitude list" that you can pray over and revise. Keep it up and it's a good bet that your developing "attitude of gratitude" will result in you becoming more generous and seeing the world through a lens of abundance.

—Rob Blezard

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6 PM Choir 	2	3	4
5 10:30 AM Remembrance Service & Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	6 10 AM Yoga	7 12 PM Rotary 1:30 PM Bible Study	8 6 PM Choir Carl Courtois (b)	9 Lyle Bryant (b) Mike Kingsland (b)	10 Caylie Ray (b)	11 Veterans Day 
12 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	13 10 AM Yoga Isaac Faust (b) Liam Wilhoit (b) Mya Wilhoit (b) Owen Wilhoit (b)	14 12 PM Rotary 1:30 PM Bible Study	15 6 PM Choir	16 Sebastian Smith (b) Brooke West (b)	17	18
19 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	20 10 AM Yoga Leah Parkin (b)	21 12 PM Rotary 1:30 PM Bible Study Marsha Foster (b)	22 Rosemary Wischmeier (b)	23 	24 Tom DeChue (b)	25 Tara Richardson (b)
26 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship Stokely Wischmeier (b)	27 10 AM Yoga 5:30 PM Advent decorating	28 12 PM Rotary 1:30 PM Bible Study CJ Lindsay (b)	29 6 PM Choir	30 Robert Nichols (b)	Daylight Saving Time ends on November 5, 2023. Remember to set your clocks back an hour when you head to bed on Saturday, November 4 th .	

Two chances to help with kids

The donations for the Missouri Youth Personal Care Kits for teenagers in transition was great. Melissa delivered all 23 of them to the Festival of Sharing site in Dexter. Thanks Melissa! Now, we have two mission options for reaching out to kids with in the coming months.



Last month, we outlined a partnership with Epworth that involves adopting a dorm. The dorm has 12 teenagers ranging from 13 to 17 years old. The idea is to show the teenagers that someone cares about them. About once a month over the next several months, we would put together a program for the youth. This would include refreshments (cookies, popcorn, etc.) and an activity, such as supplies for a Valentine's Day party, movie night, craft project, game night, etc. If you will help with this project, please let the church office know.

The Administrative Council again approved supporting the Jefferson County Foster Children's Fund with their Christmas party. If you would like to donate to this, please do so on or before November 26th. Money contributed will purchase gifts for the foster children to open during their party. We participated in this last year, and it really makes a difference for the children and youth in foster care.



Thanks for your support.
Frances Deaton, Mission Chair

Contact Us

M. Chris Boyer, Pastor

St. Andrew's UMC

1004 Rock Road
DeSoto, Missouri

(636) 586-2472

secretary@standrewsumcdesoto.org

Visit us on the web at
www.standrewsumcdesoto.org

Pastor Chris is in the office Tuesday – Friday, 9-3. Fridays are his day to write, so please only contact him for emergencies on Fridays.

The mission of St. Andrew's is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

St. Andrew's UMC
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE