

Boulevard United Methodist Church



“Here it is wise to pause, recollecting instances in Mark where God makes possible the impossible.”

- C. Clifton Black

October 14, 2018

On the Cover: Match Light, Father Bill Moore SS.CC, The Sound of Day Breaking.

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THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
✦ *where disciples are lifelong learners influencing others to serve* ✦

20th Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 pm at 1837 W Broad St.

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Opening Words

It is good.
It is good.
To be in a house of the Lord.
To be in a house of the Lord.
One more time.
One more time.

Hymn Come Thou Fount UMH 400

Time with Children

Prayer

Music

Scripture Genesis 28:10-22

Hymn O God of Bethel

Scripture Mark 10:17-31

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn Grace Greater than Our Sin 1-2, 4 UMH 365

Offering Tithes & Gifts

Prayer

Gracious God,
We offer you these gifts and renew our commitment to taking the next step.
Give us the courage to listen and respond, so that we can become a living offering:
Those who are worthy to be called your image-bearers. **Amen.**

The Lord's Supper

Hymn I Have Decided

Dismissal with Blessing

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God...

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus...

And so,
in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on us, and pour out your Spirit on these gifts...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER



Storefront Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

AND THIS STONE - Genesis 28:22

Stones are mentioned in the Scriptures for the same reason that a lot of things are: they are part of the landscape.

For every time a stone is just a stone, a stone points to what is anything but ordinary. This is the case in Genesis 28.

It's extraordinary! Really. There is a stone that becomes a pillow and then a monument covered in oil. Jacob is marking the spot where he has an encounter with the holy and did not see it coming. He associates the stone, which he has just set up for a pillar, with the house of God and the gate of heaven. He is nothing if not bold, that Jacob.

Later Samuel will come along and inspire the lyric that many of us sing with gusto, even if we cannot say what it means. "Here I raise my Ebenezer" recalls the moment Samuel took a stone and set it upright to commemorate the Lord's help when it seemed as though the Philistines would be the end of Israel.

Ebenezer *means* the stone of help.

This Sunday feels like one to stand a stone on end and pour some oil on it. [Do I have to sleep on one the night before?] It sure seems like the Sunday to sing, "here I raise my Ebenezer" like we know full well that we are singing it with all those who have been struck with a sense of God having been our help.

I haven't a clue what is in store for the people called Boulevard (on Broad) but I know that there is biblical precedent for experiencing strange places as (a) awesome and (b) the unexpected source of recommitment to God's holy way.

It is and it isn't about this congregation's October 2018 move from schoolhouse to storefront.

I would like to think that those of present to praise God on Richmond's Broad Street will be those who recall how we -- all of us seeking and keeping the faith - have been called living stones by the Scripture, living stones that have been chiseled from the quarry of the world (Ellen White) and then brought as building materials for something the Lord has designed and is therefore nothing if not good. God go with us. And with you~

Genesis 28:10-22

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you."

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

CHILDREN'S CHURCH for infants - 5 year olds begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). They rejoin us for Communion. Ms. LaRonda will be away this week and next week. Her substitute – like Ms. LaRonda -- is an experienced childcare provider currently employed by Grace Covenant Child Development Center.

WE ARE PRAYING for those grieving the loss of Dot Hechler and the loss of Rita Callis. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

A BOOK STUDY begins Tuesday October 30 at 6:30 pm. *Change the World:*



Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus will serve as the springboard for conversation. Participants can expect six one-hour long gatherings here at 1837 W Broad as well as optional community engagement opportunities.

If you think you can make 4 of the 6 sessions, you are a qualified candidate! E-mail lauren.leggett@gmail.com with the following information. Or register by dropping this insert in the offering plate.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Snail-mail (we'll send you the book): _____

Comments or Questions: