

# Boulevard United Methodist Church on Broad



Jesus encounters fisherman who had an unfruitful night on their fishing expedition and who are now cleaning their nets before putting them away. Into this context, where men and women come face to face with their limits and give up, Jesus enters and asks the men to push one of the boats away from the beach.

- Howard Gregory

## February 10, 2019

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany  
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, All You People*

Time with Children

Joys & Concerns

Prayer

Interlude

Scripture

Luke 5:1-11

Music

*Straight Street*

Sermon

Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn

*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

Offering

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below:*

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, the source of all our gifts!*

*Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The Lord's Supper

Hymn

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

Dismissal with Blessing



## Storefront Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

### THE ONE BELONGING TO SIMON - Luke 5:3

Jesus walks onto the job site and asks Simon the question he's probably been planning to ask for a while now.

*Can I use your boat?*

My memory of fisher-folk is that they have zero desire to set someone up for a joyride after working all night. When they are cleaning up, when they haven't caught what they need to catch: this is no time to ask a favor.

Maybe Simon is too tired to say anything at all. Jesus hits him with a one-two request. *Can I use your boat? And will you take us out a little further (v.3)?*

This is before the beginning of the miracle. In other words, it's not until after Jesus teaches a lesson from Simon's boat – God only knows how long that took – that the familiar part of this story unfolds.

James and John are continuing the cleanup effort, while Jesus is with Simon in Simon's boat, urging him to let down the nets that have just been cleaned. Much is at stake. The others aren't joining the movement unless Simon does.

For all that is said and written about leadership, you don't often hear sustained reflection on the reality made apparent here; namely, if we wait until it feels right to lead, we might miss the boat.

"Jesus did not show up after a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast. He came...at the end of long working day, after backbreaking labor (Peter Eaton)." He approached Peter, the would-be leader, with a hard ask, and the timing was rough.

As those who belong to a society wherein discomfort is avoided at all costs, this story comes for us with questions. Is our boat Jesus-accessible when we are tired? And who is counting on us to try differently, when we don't feel like it?

"He (Jesus) told them to keep on working. He does the same to the preacher of this passage, and to all of us."

### Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,<sup>2</sup>he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.<sup>3</sup>He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.<sup>4</sup>When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."<sup>5</sup>Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."<sup>6</sup>When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.<sup>7</sup>So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.<sup>8</sup>But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"<sup>9</sup>For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;<sup>10</sup>and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."<sup>11</sup>When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

# NURTURE

*caring for one another and for our growth as disciples*

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Grayson Foy, Nancy Tate, Bishop Sharma Lewis, Tammy Estep & David Outten, Jim & his family, and Nancy Tate. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH for infants - 5 year olds begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). They rejoin us for Communion. Ms. LaRonda is an experienced childcare provider currently employed by Grace Covenant Child Development Center.

THE WORD EPIPHANY suggests "a making known" of something or someone. For us, Epiphany is both a day and a season. The identity of the Jesus and is being made known to us as we follow him from birth into the beginning of his public ministry.

GIVING GROWS YOU and us.

|              | Ministry Costs | Your Gifts |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| January 2019 | \$14,166       | \$6,087    |

We're celebrating a new door for our storage and children's area. This was a planned expense. The door provides noise cancelation and visibility.

A WORKING CALENDAR (expect additions and adjustments):

|                |  |   |
|----------------|--|---|
| February 17    | 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  | Commitment Sunday<br>Rev. Katie Gooch preaching           |
| February 23-26 | Special Session of the<br>General Conference of The<br>United Methodist Church | St. Louis, Missouri                                       |
| February 23    | 1800 block cleanup   | 9:30 – 11:00 am   |
| February 24    | 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  | Guest Musician, Jim Bennett                               |
| March 3        | Transfiguration Sunday   |   |
| March 6        | Ash Wednesday  | Imposition of ashes time TBD                              |
| March 10       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent   |   |
| March 17       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent   |   |
| March 24       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent   |   |
| March 31       | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent   |   |
| April 7        | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent   |   |
| April 14       | Liturgy of the Palms<br>Liturgy of the Passion                                 |   |
| April 18       | Maundy Thursday  | 6:00 pm service at 1837 W<br>Broad St.; childcare offered |
| April 21       | Easter Sunday  | Sunrise Service at Hollywood<br>Cemetery                  |

Our 4pm service on Easter Sunday crosses paths (almost literally) with Monument Avenue's Easter Parade. For that reason, a change to our regular service time that weekend is under consideration.

## WITNESS

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

FOR THE LOVE of baby Ava, whom we have not yet met, we are preparing to purchase a gift (or gifts) from LaRonda Malone's registry. LaRonda has cared for our children and this is an opportunity for our congregation to bless her and as she welcomes one of her own. If you would like to contribute, please envelope cash or memo-line a check "Ava". This is the last Sunday to do so.