

# NURTURE

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

## {Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Susan Hageman, the family of Jim Rickards, Dan Rohrer & his family, and those grieving Ben Harmrick. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH with Ms. LaRonda begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). Guardians are invited to accompany infants - 5 year olds to the end of the hallway. They rejoin us for Communion.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER in numbers:

	Ministry Costs	Your Contributions
May 1 - 26	11,983	9,391

## Boulevard United Methodist Church



"A blessing goes beyond the distinction between admiration or condemnation, between good deeds or evil deeds. A blessing touches the original goodness of the other and calls forth his or her Belovedness. Being beloved expresses the core truth of our existence."

- Henri Nouwen

June 3, 2018

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

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2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
4:00 pm at Fox Elementary

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Opening Words

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

**The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**

The Song of God is named, “Beloved.”

**And all who worship shout out, “Glory!”**

Hymn *Wade in the Water*

Time with Children Rev. Rachel May

Prayer

The Peace

Scripture Job 2:11-13

Hymn *When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise*

Scripture Luke 3:21-22

Sermon Rev. Courtney Allen

Music *I'll Walk Beside You*

Offering Tithes & Gifts

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 *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*

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

# OUTREACH

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

{Outward}

MAY IS FOR OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE. What is that?

1. **It's an area.** Our congregation is a part of the Virginia Conference.
2. **It's an event.** It happens every year in either Hampton or Roanoke.

It is tradition for each local church to prepare an offering (much in the same way as individual does for church). Bishop Sharma Lewis has put forth a goal of \$200,000 to focus on the following endeavors:

Cambodia	\$50,000	Community health & agricultural development
Brazil	\$25,000	Ministry with children; shade & fresh water
Mozambique	\$25,000	Lay leadership development
Native Americans	\$10,000	Volunteers in Mission teams
Cuba	\$25,000	Hurricane recovery for churches
Haiti	\$25,000	Volunteers in Mission teams
Puerto Rico	\$25,000	Hurricane recovery support for churches
Moscow	\$15,000	Seminary scholarships for students

Sometime during the June 15-17 weekend, Rachel and our lay member, Kylee, will put Boulevard's contribution in the plate during a worship service. If each congregation in Virginia gives \$166 the goal will be met. This is so do-able!

To contribute, designate cash or write a check to Boulevard UMC memo-lined "Conference Offering". Online givers can select the mission option.



## Schoolhouse Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

### **11 EACH OF THEM SET OUT** Job 2

I am no Job scholar. I open the book when I need to; or when I am asked to, by the family of God.

Sister Courtney Allen is fixing to speak to these three, come Sunday. I'm not trying to preach before the preacher. I am definitely using this moment to reacquaint myself with Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite.

Elphaz, Bildad, and Zophar *minus* their hometowns would seem to suffice. Except in having to say all of those –ites, it may dawn on us that this trio put some serious effort into being with Job.

“Now when Job’s three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home (v.11).”

That’s something. [I don’t dare ask myself how many times I have failed to set out from my home to console old out-of-town friends.]

Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar sit with him. They keep the silence. They see his suffering (v.13). They are present in these ways for seven days and seven nights. This is nothing to sneeze at.

Yes, they are fixing to say all the wrong things. Yes, we might learn from this book how we humans tend to overestimate our grasp of the truth and the value we bring to dire straits. Job’s friends are going to put their understanding of how the world turns before their relationship with Job. They’re going to talk about God ‘til their blue in the face without actually talking to God. Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar are going to speculate and then defend their speculation as truth-telling.

They’re going to get it wrong, this spiritual friendship thing.

But that doesn’t mean that they do nothing right. Or that we can afford to overlook how the story begins.

The story begins with a man who has lost everything. Three friends go to where he is. They see his suffering. They respond. That’s something, That’s an awful lot.

### **Job 2:11-13**

<sup>11</sup> Now when Job’s three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup>When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup>They sat with him on the ground for seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

### **Luke 3:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’