

Boulevard United Methodist Church



in Genesis God blesses Abraham, Sarah and their family. God tells them to be a blessing, to bless the people of all nations. Blessing is the force of well-being active in the world, and faith is the awareness that creation is the gift that keeps on giving.

- Walter Brueggemann

July 15, 2018

On the Cover: Genesis Creation Sermon I by Jacob Lawrence, 1989.

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

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8th Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 pm at Fox Elementary

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Opening Words Psalm 36:5-10

Hymn *Morning Has Broken*

Time with Children Rev. Rachel May

Music *Reamo Leboga (We Give our Thanks to God)*

Prayer

First Reading Genesis 1:1-13

Music

Scripture Lesson 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Sermon Rev. Katie Gooch

Hymn *A Spendthrift Lover is the Lord*

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!*

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Hymn *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

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



Schoolhouse Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

YOU SHALL CARRY MY BONES - Gen. 50:25

It could be morbid or maybe this is what happens when you live your life all tangled up in the Scriptures. The plate and the cup upon our makeshift altar have Genesis significance -- *Moses carrying Joseph's bones out of Egypt* significance.

When we sold most of what we held as a congregation and the first bins were packed for pop-up church, there were several paten and chalices from which to choose. I chose the set that was arguably "too nice" for life together on the road. The silver vessels and their inscriptions felt like the thing we could carry.

We don't need to take much for the journey (Mark 6:8-9). There is, however, biblical precedence for taking something that invokes the start of the era that is ending, so as to go with God into a new storyline.

If you're leaving Egypt, the carry-able thing marking closure and continuity could be the bones of the first one to settle in Egypt. If you're leaving the corner of Boulevard and Stuart, it might be two pieces of Tableware.

A fresh wave of delight washes over me when I imagine Joseph hatching the plan. If God was coming for the people and taking them to a place far away, well, he was going too. Apparently, the best way to ensure his inclusion was to make the leadership swear to God that they'd reserve a seat for his remains.

This past Sunday, I looked down and the marvel was no more. The two ancestral pieces we've been carrying were in rough shape. They needed more than a rinse, which meant keeping the set from going where they usually go after the service and getting them to a proper cleaning and back. These things don't just happen.

I did not pause the celebration of the Lord's Supper to notify folk. Nor did I share how I was feeling like my commitment to Joseph (or his equivalent) was on shaky ground.

I *did* manage to thank God for the emergency grape juice runner and for coming to us in Jesus.

I am relieved to report that the plate and cup are still with us. In what is now a mirror-shine, I think I see a band of pilgrims walking on~

Genesis 50:24-26

²⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die; but God will surely come to you, and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." ²⁵ So Joseph made the Israelites swear, saying, "When God comes to you, you shall carry up my bones from here." ²⁶ And Joseph died, being one hundred ten years old; he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Nancy Tate, 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
June 2018	12,549	9,356



NEXT SUNDAY JULY 22 we are potluck suppering together here at Fox. We will have 40 guests whom will also join us for our service beforehand. Do come and connect with old friends, new friends and especially our guests!

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

NEXT UP, monthly mission-wise: Stocking two of our local schools with that which their classrooms will need. It's too soon for the teachers and summer lovers among us to hear "school supplies" so look for details next week.

PSALM 36:5-10

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens: and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep: you save both man and beast, O Lord.

How priceless is your love, O God! your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

They feast upon the abundance of your house: you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the well of life: and in your light, we see light.

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you: and your favor to those who are true of heart.

We are part of the earth: and it is part of us.