

The Message—Pastor Rickey Wade

Perfecting Grace

As I said last week, all of grace does not get equal billing. If that is true with sanctifying grace, then perfecting grace gets little to no mention at all. Maybe folks shy away from “perfecting grace” because we fear being “perfect.” The idea of perfecting grace is not the idea of perfect that we normally have in mind.

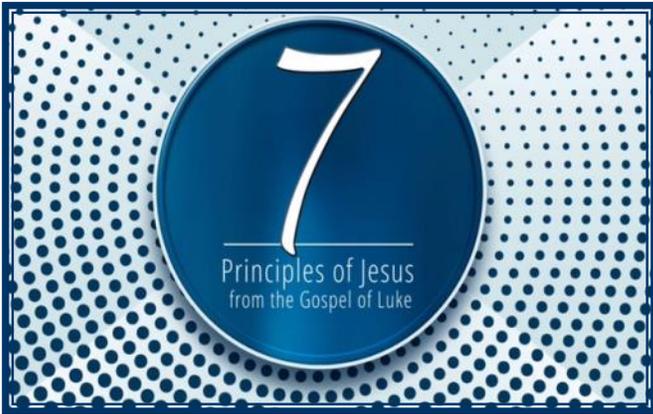
Let me begin with a bit of Scripture, “As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy’” (1 Peter 1:14-16). Peter quotes from Leviticus 19:2 among other texts. The point being that several places in Scripture tell us that we are to be holy as God is holy. I bring this up because we normally associate holy with perfect. They are not the same. To begin, God can be holy and perfect, but as finite humans we cannot in the same sense.

Next, holy in the Bible refers to being set apart for a special reason. God said that we are to keep the Sabbath holy – that is set apart for the special purpose of rest, reflection, and worship. To be holy then means we are set apart by God for special work and purposes in the kingdom of God. To be a holy people does not mean a “perfect” people; it means a people given a special task.

This now brings us to the notion of perfecting grace. How then does God’s grace allow us to be perfect? The idea, simply put, is this – we become perfect in love. We are not perfect in all manner of life, and therefore, it does not mean that we are sinless. It means that the grace of God allows us to love as God loves and to desire wellbeing for all.

It is possible to love others – it is possible to be made perfect in love in this life. It is not easy, but it is possible. The question is this, “Are we willing to allow the grace of God to fill us to the point that we love in this way?” Just remember, God’s grace is sufficient to meet our every need, this includes making us perfect in love.

*God bless,
Brother Rickey*



Current Sermon series (through August 20th)

Pastor Rickey’s sermons are posted on our website every Sunday, right after the conclusion of the 11 a.m. service. Go to www.fumctullahoma.com, select “sermons” and “view media player.” From there you may select the sermon you want to listen to.

Dossett Chapel 50th Anniversary Reception

Fifty years ago, some ladies from our church started a “sack Sunday School” program in the Dossett apartment maintenance building, and the Dossett ministry was started. A couple years later the church acquired a small house next to the apartments and the program grew and expanded. It was named Dossett Chapel. Over the years, many varied programs have taken place there. Several other churches have helped support these programs at different times. The Chapel has also had changes take place with additions and improvements over the years. The latest is to add an additional bathroom and upgrade the kitchen cabinets.

Time to celebrate these fifty years! On July 23rd from 2-4 p.m. there will be an open house for present and former volunteers, students, and their families to come see the changes and share memories. Finger food will be available in the front room, and pictures, videos, etc. in the back room. If you have any to share, please bring them.

All are welcome to attend. If you are not familiar with this ministry, this will be a great opportunity to learn about it and talk to those who have been involved. If you are able to help in the front room or bring a finger food, contact Juanita Bair at 454-0834.

Congratulations!

Summer Grace Andrews was born to David and Beth Andrews on June 13th in Johnson City, TN. Proud grandmother is Elsa Andrews.

Please note that the Jackson Street parking lot will be closed for repairs on Monday & Tuesday, July 24th & 25th. Also on these days, the parking spaces along Lauderdale Street will not be available for parking as the lines are being repainted. Please use the Family Activity Center parking lot during this time.

Senior VIBES

This Week's Events...

Saturday, July 22nd

Ragtime Play and Dinner in Murfreesboro; leaving Family Activity Center at 4 p.m.

Happy Birthday!!!

July 21 Charlotte Hatheway
24 Joe Simmons
25 Frank Steinle
26 Larry Warwick
29 Barbara Oakley
29 Dennis Hyde

Senior Ministry—Esther J. Sims

Thought of the Week: "Joy, pure joy comes not from circumstances but from our love relationship with God." (*Being Still with God*)

Our committee to narrow the list of names for our Senior Adult Program have selected the following names as possible choices for our Senior Adult Ministry: a) Added Dimensions, b) WOW: Wonderful, Older, Wiser, c) Memory Makers, d) Keenagers and e) Sharing & Caring. Pray and think on these possible names and be ready to vote starting July 30th. Next week I will give you the options of ways to vote.

Coming Events...

Tuesday, August 1st - Golden Circle; Jon Bell program; board meeting afterwards

Monday-Thursday, August 7th-10th - Wisdom and Grace Conference at Lake Junaluska (registration closed)

Thursday, August 17th - Sister Act Play & Lunch in Crossville

Thursday, August 24th - Book Club, 6 p.m.; *Sally Ride*

Thursday, November 30th—Christmas at Beersheba—You don't want to miss this!

Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee will host a free trip to Washington, D.C. for World War II and Korean Veterans to tour their War Memorials. The tour date is Wednesday, September 13th, 2017. Pick up an application and more information in the church office or see Esther.

Please check our prayer list in the newsletter and on the church's white board outside the office. Help the staff stay in touch! If you have knowledge of any of our Senior Adult Members who would like to be remembered in prayer or would like a visit from our pastoral staff, please do not hesitate to let us know. Also, we acknowledge birthdays of Senior Adult Members weekly in the newsletter; if you would like to be added to the list give me a call (Esther: 455-5434).

Youth & Discipleship Ministry—Kris Roberts



SUMMER EVENTS

Youth Lake Party - Sunday, July 30th 12-5 p.m.

All Church @ Splash Island - July 30th 6-8 p.m.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

Sundays

Worship 8, 9, & 11 a.m.

Sunday School 10 a.m.

HS Youth 5 p.m.:

Coffee/Topical Discussion/Dinner

Wednesdays

MS Youth 6:30-8 p.m. (August only);

6-8 p.m., beginning in September:

Snack Supper/Topical Discussion/Planned

Activities (Gym)

Disciple Bible Study 6-8 p.m. (Start date TBD)

School Year Youth and Parent Meeting - Join us Wednesday, August 9th at 6:30 p.m. for our annual start of the school year meeting. Important information will be shared and a time of Q & A with the youth ministry director and staff will be held.

HS @ Nashville Sounds Baseball (Conference event) - Sunday, August 20th

Discipleship

We will begin registration for our home group ministry in August. Each Sunday you will have the opportunity to sign up to be a part of a ministry that is truly changing lives in our congregation! Our launch night will be held on Sunday, August 27th at 6 p.m. in the Family Activity Center. Join us that evening for dinner and vision casting!



There will be a luncheon on Sunday, August 6th at 12:15 p.m. in Davidson Hall for anyone interested in attending the upcoming *Emmaus Walks*. We will need a headcount by Friday, July 28th to plan for food. Please contact Terry Rayfield at 931-581-7804 or Dian Rayfield at 931-212-6623.

The **Young Moms Group** is meeting during the month of July on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. They are reading and discussing, *"Raising Grateful Kids in an Entitled World"* by Kristen Welch. All ladies welcome. Childcare is not be available for these evening sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Harrison @ 931-434-2425.

Children's Ministry—Julie Uehlein

Hope everyone is enjoying these last few weeks of summer break.

Upcoming kindergarteners and those going in to 6th grade should have received an email from me discussing Promotion Sunday on July 30th. If not, please let me know.

Want a Children's Ministry t-shirt? We have sizes 12 months – adult XXL for \$5. Contact me if interested!

I would like to hear from you on our Fall programming with suggestions!!

July

30th Sunday School Promotion Sunday
30th Church Wide Pool Party, Splash Island (DW Wilson) 6-8 p.m.



August

6th Children's Ministry parent meeting for all age groups, 10 a.m., Art Room

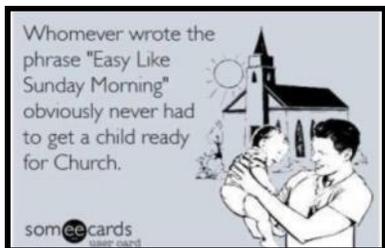


Sunday, July 23rd

Nursery Hours
7:45 a.m. - 12 noon

Sunday School
10:00 a.m. (Main
bldg., 2nd floor)

Children's Church
11:00 a.m. service



Information relating to our Children's Ministry is available at the Information Station desk (at the top of the steps in the Children's Department). Any forms or info you need will be at this desk. All sign-up sheets (parents and children) will be on the bulletin board that is located between the bathroom doors in the Children's Department. All info pertaining to the nursery and nursery aged children will be kept in the nursery or on the bulletin board to the right of the nursery door.

Jesus said, "Let the Little Children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" Mark 10:14-1

But oh so worth it for their spiritual foundation!

*Partnering WITH You,
Miss Julie*

First Light & Outreach Ministry—Jeff Harrison



Hey Everyone,

School is about to start in a couple weeks. It's a great time to invite friends that you haven't seen all summer to come and attend church. If church is meaningful to you, if God has done something in your life, don't you want someone else to experience that as well? That's what I think about when inviting people to church. I don't think about rejection or excuses, I think about what God has done in my life, and that I want others to experience that as well. We have a couple more weeks of summer, but begin to pray and think about who you might ask to join you this coming school year.

*In Christ,
Jeff*

Missions Moment—Holt Cason



This MM is to express our sincere gratitude to you, our Church members, for your thoughts, prayers, and financial support for our VIM trip to Latvia. While the VIM team was rather small this year, we believe that we made an impact on the people at our Connecting Congregation church in Liepa. By working to replace worn-out furniture, and performing other tasks we demonstrated our love and concern. We are truly grateful that we are blessed to be able to help those that need help. Amen.



Back to the Table, a Wednesday Night Meal & Message Disciple Series, will begin August 9th from 5-6 p.m., in Davidson Hall. This series is open to adults, youth, and children grades 3 and up, and the nursery will be available. Our menu for the 9th is: Meatloaf meatballs, parmesan mashed potatoes, southern green beans, roll, and caramel cake for dessert.

THE HENRY CENTER

Hours
Food Pantry, Financial Assistance, & Clothes Closet
Thursdays 12-2 p.m.

Clothes Closet Donations

Due to limited storage space, we are asking that the clothing you donate be seasonal and current. Thank you for your continued support of "The Closet."

Sunday School Challenge

Our challenge for July is school supplies for elementary age children. All donations will go to our Henry Center Clothes Closet. They may be left in the back of the chapel of the main building. God Bless! -Terry Rayfield

Worship Attendance-July 16

8 a.m.	55
First Light	127
11 a.m.	144
Total	326
Sunday School	108

Sunday, July 23rd

Offering Counters

Rush & Belinda Bricken

Greeters/Welcome Teams

8:00 a.m.	Linda Rogers Linda Thomas
9:00 a.m.	Monica & Brian Skelton
11:00 a.m.	Ann Lester Mary Etta Ward Cathy Diller

Keeping In Prayers

Juanita Bair	Gloria Pless	Brooke Mendenhall
Eddie Windsor (nephew of Bob Prater)	Helen Smith	(cousin of Michelle Anderson)
Nathan Adkins (brother of Michelle Carmack)	Melba Mahrenholz	Billy Roy Murray (Nancy Wright's family)
Summer Grace Andrews (granddaughter of Elsa Andrews)	Caroline McPherson (great niece of Nancy Lawrence)	Carolyn Graham (sister of Bob Prater)
Ron Harrison (cousin of Bryan Fogle)	Judy Fitch	Anthony Robinson, Scott Dowling & Mary Lundy (family of Wilma Finchum)
	Leon Smith	
	Forrest Frame	

Home Communion Teams

We are in need of two more teams to serve Home Communion. These teams only serve two to three times a year, once a month. Those interested can call Susan Warwick (455-1996) for details. We need these teams filled by September.



TEXT IN CHURCH

To receive text messages & emails from the church to keep you in the loop about everything that is going on, just text the word CHURCH to 931-452-4747 and click on the response. You may also sign-up to receive texts from specific areas of ministry. For our Youth Ministry, text YOUTH; for our Children's Ministry text CHILDREN. Once your form is filled out, we will begin sending you all the info you'll need.

Connect

Senior Pastor

Administrative Assistant
First Light/Outreach Ministry
Children's Ministry
Senior's Ministry
Youth & Discipleship Ministry
Henry Center Ministry
Dossett Chapel
Organist and Accompanist
Music Director
Music Ministry (First Light)
Financial Secretary
Facilitator
Stephen Ministries

931.455.5434

Pastor Rickey Wade

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Jeff Harrison
Julie Uehlein
Esther J. Sims
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