

The Message—Pastor Rickey Wade

Repentance III

In the past two columns, I have discussed repentance as involving a desire to change and actual change. We have also discussed the idea that actual change does not come through our own power but by the power of God’s Holy Spirit. As such, real change comes as we surrender our will to God. Today, I would like to talk about surrendering to God.

Regardless of what you may have seen on the latest infomercial, willpower can only take you so far. Remember, the people telling you, “You can do it!” are most interested in selling you their book or their machine. These people are going to the bank betting on our human inclination to think we can control everything. The truth is we actually control very little. Most of our trouble comes from believing we control far more than we do. Nonetheless, we want to be in control. This is why many people, good intentioned people, try to repent by their own willpower, and fail!

Surrender – to give up power, to yield to another, to give up claim. Think about what this says, and what it does not say. As it relates to this discussion, surrender is to yield to God, give power over our lives to God, and to give up claim for our life to God. What it does not say is that we do nothing. Surrender does not mean we sit down and wait on God to act or fix us. On the contrary, it says that we become actively engaged in giving over to God, following the will of God, and trusting God.

Surrender is hard for many reasons, but two stand out. First, as already noted, we want to be in control. We want to manage every aspect of our life, and some want to manage a great many aspects of others’ lives as well. For people who cannot imagine not being in charge, surrender comes very hard. Second, God works at lightning speed and at a turtle’s pace. God does so much so fast that we do not realize it has happened. On the other hand, God stretches, grows, and matures us over time. We may be willing to surrender, but whatever God is to do, we want it now. We are not accustomed to waiting. Surrender takes patience.

So how then does surrender bring repentance? Through surrender, we actively engage God through prayer, study, worship, fasting, meditation, and other spiritual practices. In short, we listen for God. When we listen, we find that God speaks. God speaks to us of motives, practices, responses, and ways. The ways of which God speaks are different from our ways. If we listen, God will move in our life, empower us, and work the mystery of transformation. We then find change beyond our doing, energy that does not fade, and a desire for more of God’s life-changing Spirit.

Simply put, give yourself to God, listen to God, and follow God. You will find a change that is beyond words, and that outlasts any human power.

*God bless,
Brother Rickey*

Ongoing Activities

Wednesdays

- Dossett Chapel 3:15-5 p.m.
- Instrumental Ensemble 5:30-6:15 p.m.
- Middle School Youth Group 6:30-8 p.m.
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30-7:45 p.m.
- High School Youth Disciple I 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays

- Henry Center Food Pantry, Financial Assistance, & Clothes Closet 12-2 p.m.
- Handbells 5:30 p.m.

Fridays

- Young Mom’s Group, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Reception Room #111, main building

Sundays

- High School Youth Group 5-7 p.m.

Tuesdays

- Henry Center Food Pantry & Financial Assistance 12-2 p.m.
- Boy Scouts 7-8 p.m.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4th, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Sunday School Challenge
The challenge for September is new socks and underwear for the Henry Center Clothes Closet. These items are greatly needed. Items can be left in the small chapel or the Hope Sunday School Class in the main building. Thank you for the generous giving and let us continue to serve our neighbors. *-Terry Rayfield*



Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief
Please see the insert from the ***United Methodist Committee on Relief*** in your newsletter with information on how to help victims of Hurricane Harvey.

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.

Senior VIBES

Ongoing Events...

Adult Art Group

1st & 3rd Fridays
10 a.m. - noon

Art Room, main building



Happy Birthday!!!

August 31 Mary Alice Hollinshead
31 Bob Barksdale
September 1 Linda Thomas
4 Fran Marcum
6 Jeanne Bigger

Senior Ministry—Esther J. Sims

Thought of the Week: “Everything you do, is done in the sight of God.”
- *Being Still With God*, p. 245

This Week's Events...

Wednesday, August 30th - “Back to the Table” Dinner & Devotion 5-6 p.m.

Wednesday, August 30th - LIFEgroup 6-7:30 p.m.; led by Shannon & Larry Dickerson

Monday, September 4th - Church Office will be closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5th - Golden Circle, Pastor Rickey Wade speaker

Coming Events...

Saturday, September 16th - Brunch at Readyville Mill; cost \$20; leaving FAC building parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 21st - Older Adult Fall Conference; St. Mark's Murfreesboro

October (TBA) - Nashville Zoo

Sunday, October 29th - Trunk or Treat

Thursday, November 30th - Christmas at Beersheba; cost \$20

Please note:

River Cruise and Crossville play dates have been cancelled for the month of October. Please engage yourselves in Golden Circle, Encouragers, Knitting, Art Group, Barn Dance and/or Truck or Treat during the month of October.

It is now time to start preparation for our mission trip to **Sager Brown** in Baldwin, Louisiana, April 29th-May 4th, 2018. Those who have signed up will be receiving several forms to fill out next week. Please return these to me by Friday, September 29th, 2017. We will have our first informational meeting, Sunday, October 1st in FAC Building at 12:30 p.m. with lunch provided.

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).

First Light & Outreach Ministry—Jeff Harrison



Hey Everyone,

I was talking to Pastor Rickey this past week about how a strength of traditional worship is that it doesn't change, and a strength of modern worship is that it is flexible and can change and try new things. I didn't really think about it at the time, but doesn't this perfectly describe the God of the Bible whom we worship? God's love never changes, he is the same yesterday, today and forever.

And yet God is working and moving still through the ministries of our church and our worship. He uses people to lead the church, and always has, but the church does ministry differently than it did say 20 or 30 years ago. We can always trust in the things about God that don't change and embrace the new ways we see God working today.

*In Christ,
Jeff*

Missions Moment—Holt Cason



Imagine your body aching so much from physical labor that you cannot tell where you hurt the most. Imagine thinking that this project was an impossible task from the beginning. Imagine not being able to understand what the people around you are saying because you do not understand the language. Imagine how you might miss the luxury of your home with air conditioning, television, and a glass of iced lemonade. Suddenly, a small hand touches your hand. Imagine looking down and seeing a child saying, “thank you” in this special way for your VIM work.

Children's Ministry—Julie Uehlein

If you have not received a calendar of events, please see me. Also, to receive texts and emails concerning our Children's Ministry, text CHILDREN to 452-4747 then fill out the info sent back to you. It will take you 30 seconds.

On Sunday during Sunday School, we gave out our Children's Ministry bags and explained to the children how our new attendance, good deed, etc. incentives program will work. Please detach and sign the note that went home with your child.

We have three sign ups going on: 1) teamKID participants 2) Wednesday mission opportunities at Dossett in September and November 3) The Painted House on November 5th. These sign-ups are on the bulletin board in the Children's hallway.

I always welcome your feedback and look forward to hearing from our parents.

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

*Partnering WITH You,
Miss Julie*



Sunday, Sept. 3rd

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

Youth & Discipleship Ministry—Kris Roberts



WHAT WE'RE TEACHING (Sunday School)

Our Sunday School ministry allows us to feed our students' appetite for Scripture and open their hearts and minds to parts of the Bible that intimidated them before. Young people will discover the beauty and relevancy of Scripture and we follow the "scarlet thread" through the Old Testament. We will begin a journey this August where our students will see the bigger picture of God's story and gain appreciation for his redemption plan through Jesus.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 2nd - Saturday of Service,
8 a.m.-12 noon

Friday, September 8th - MS Jump Park Lock-in

Discipleship

We had a wonderful time Sunday night sharing a meal together and talking through the "why?" behind our small group ministry. I am happy to report that we have a new "neighborhood" group in the Fairways that will begin meeting in September! If you were not able to make it to the LIFEgroup launch and would like information on our small group ministry, please contact Kris Roberts, Director of Discipleship at 931-581-2310



Altar Flowers

September 24th is still available for altar flowers. If you would like to provide the altar flowers on this date in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please contact Mandy in the church office at 931-455-5434 or fumc@lighttube.net



Trunk or Treat 2017

Are you interested in helping with Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 29th? Last year we had over 700 people from our community in attendance. This year's event will take many hands of all ages. Please contact Julie Uehlein, 581-8320, if interested in contributing in some way.

Worship Attendance-

Aug 27th

8 a.m.	93
First Light	94
11 a.m.	143
Total	330
Sunday School	128

Sunday, September 3rd

Offering Counters

Clay & Fuffy Bearden
Barbara Buckner
Janna Washington

Greeters/Welcome Teams

8:00 a.m. Bertha Bates
Linda Rogers
9:00 a.m. Jan & Mike Dent
11:00 a.m. Charles Drummond
Cathy Diller
Ruth Wilson

Home Communion Teams

Josh & Gwyn Diller
Julia & Steve Mayes
Suzanne & Kenny Banks
Rusty & Cindy Williamson
Cathy & Craig Diller
Jim & Evelyn Childers

Keeping In Prayers

Lennon Lott (brother-in-law of Terry Rayfield)	Leon Smith	Brooke Mendenhall (cousin of Michelle Anderson)
Caroline McPherson (great niece of Nancy Lawrence)	Forrest Frame	Billy Roy Murray (Nancy Wright's family)
Nathan Adkins (brother of Michelle Carmack)	Helen Smith	Anthony Robinson, Scott Dowling & Mary Lundy (family of Wilma Finchum)
Ed Horton	Summer Grace Andrews (granddaughter of Elsa Andrews)	
Gloria Pless	Ron Harrison (cousin of Bryan Fogle)	
	Judy Fitch	



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

Mandy White
Jeff Harrison
Julie Uehlein
Esther J. Sims
Kris Roberts
Jeff Harrison
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Michelle Anderson
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