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SERVANTS OF THE LORD CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

If you don't feel, at this time, that you know what God has called you to do, then seek to fulfill the commandment that Christ gave all of us in which he said, *Love one another as I have loved you*. If we follow that commandment, we will always be in God's will.

But, when God does call you to do something specific for him, **you**, like Jeremiah, may think that you are not worthy or have the ability to do what God is asking of you. Jeremiah told God that he didn't think that he had the ability to do what God wanted him to. He gave the excuse that he was too young. What excuses have we given God for not answering His call. You see, we **can** give God excuses. He calls us, and he gives us the **choice** as to whether we will answer. God wants us on his team and will offer us a position, but he won't force us to play for Him if we don't want to. And some of us may not want to. But oh what a great feeling it is, when you **know** that you're playing on the winning team! Think about it! What an opportunity?! How many times do you get to choose to play for a team that you know ahead of time is going to win. What a great deal!

But as I mentioned earlier, you might not think that God could possibly want **you.** You may think: So, what's so special about me? I don't have any great abilities or knowledge that I can use to work for God. But hold on. Let's think about that line of thinking for a second. Who says that you have to have super-abilities, super-strength, or super-knowledge to work for God. Look whom Christ surrounded himself with. He chose fishermen, tax collectors, and the like to be his disciples. These were common working people like you and me.

It's during the times that I forget to rely on him that I feel inadequate and incapable of the work that God has for me to do. But then I remember that God will not give me (or you) a job that he won't equip me to do. He gives us the strength and the resources we need to accomplish the job that he has assigned to us. He will empower us over any obstacle and give us the confidence to go forth for **him**. In fact, we may be insulting God when we second guess his choice, when he chooses **us** for a job. He knows better than we do what we are capable of accomplishing - with his help. God will use us to further his kingdom and will walk next to us the whole way, if we will only let him. Remember, as some people like to say...God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called.

Listen for his voice this fall as we put out the call for your help at Front Street. What is God calling you to do inside the church, and out in our community? It's exciting to think about, isn't it?

Grace & peace, Ross



June 10, 2021 Volume MMXXI No. 12

SERVANTS OF THE LORD

A church affected by COVID requires a different approach. Like every other church, the ministries of Front Street have been affected as a result of over a year with COVID. Some ministries, like some of the Sunday School classes, have persevered using new technologies. Even the music ministries used tech to bring music into online worship and other online settings.

However, some areas will need to be rebuilt...relaunched, if you will. For example, the Chancel Choir will need to be almost completely relaunched. Other music ministries, like the Aldersgate Praise Band, and the Bell Choir weathered the storm a bit better. We will also need to work on other discipleship activities and mission events.

Long story, short: This fall we will do our best to reboot, relaunch, rebuild this ministry life of Front Street. And to accomplish that feat, we will need all hands on deck! In other words, we will need YOU!

Sometimes, we tend to want to limit the people that God can use. We think that God only wants to use those people who we think are well-educated and highly-qualified in his service. "He would never choose me to do anything for him. The Almighty Everlasting Omnipotent God of the Universe would never stoop to ask me to do anything for him. He has probably even forgotten that I exist." Not true! God calls **all** of us into his service.

Let's look at Jeremiah. Jeremiah was a young fellow, presumably just hanging out one day in his home town when the Lord God spoke to him. God said, "Jeremiah, I've known you since you were forming in your mother's womb, and in fact, I decided what I wanted you to do for me before you were even born." And like Jeremiah, God knew each one of us before we were born. He has a plan for us. Some people in the Bible, like King David, John the Baptist, and Paul, had specific purposes. God may have already given **you** a specific task. If so, do it with His help in a way that will glorify him. He may not reveal what His plan is for others of us at what **we** would consider to be the most appropriate time, but rest assured He **will** let you know what you are to do. But it will be when **He** is ready for you to know. continued

KNOWING CHRIST

SANCTUARY AUDIO-VISUAL TEAM NEEDS TO GROW

Over the past year, our Sanctuary Audio-Visual Team (AV Team) has done a great job of enabling us to share worship online. Now that we are back doing in-person worship, we want to be able to keep streaming worship for those who are participating from home.

We have had two (2) regular AV team members over the past year. As you can imagine, that has been a huge commitment for only two people.

They need your help! For example, we have a week coming up soon where both will be out of town, and there is nobody else trained. Therefore, on that Sunday we will not be able to stream the service online.

If you would find being a part of that team enjoyable and fun, or if you would like to explore what that commitment might look like, please feel free to contact John Moran at john.moran@gmail.com, and he would be glad to answer your questions.

Thank you for considering being a part of this important ministry in the life of the church!

GROWING IN CHRIST PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

Let us all be in prayer for our youth as they move into the next phase of their life. We recently celebrated our confirmation class and this past Sunday we will celebrate the 2021 high school graduates. Emotions run high as our youth transition into forming who they will be in life. Parents and loved ones



think back and ask themselves, how did this happen so fast. The Prayer Shawl Ministry provided prayer squares for the

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confirmands and the graduates. We thank the members of this team for the many hours they dedicate to this ministry and for the keepsakes that the recipients enjoy now and for years to come. Go forth young men and women, do God's work and your work will be rewarded.

A LOOK AHEAD:

BIBLE STUDY

Join us on **Wednesday mornings** at 10 a.m. via Zoom for a Bible study on the book of Luke. Look for the Zoom link in Tuesday's *Front Street Happenings* email.

NORTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2021 Session of the Annual Conference will be virtual,



using a platform to allow interaction in worship, celebration, and decision-making. Our pastors and lay delegates will be participating in the Annual Conference, **June 16-18**. Let's surround our pastors, delegates, and bishop with prayer as they discern God's will and order for the ministries of the NC

Appalachia

SERVICE PROJECT

Annual Conference.

SHARING CHRIST

ASP AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP | JUNE 20 - 26

If you would like to send mail to our youth mission teams this summer, you may do so at the following addresses:

For High School ASP team: Clay County Middle School Attn: FSUMC, Chris Huneycutt 419 Church Street Clay, WV 25043

For Middle School JAM team: Lotts Creek Community School Attn: FSUMC, Chris Huneycutt 5837 Lotts Creek Road Hazard, KY 41701

Please keep in mind that it is important to send any mail early in the week to guarantee delivery.

Please keep the youth, adult leaders, and the people they will be serving in your prayers.

BUCKNER MISSION MAN TRIATHLON July 31, 2021 at Lake Cammack

The event will look a little different this year due to COVID restrictions. The number of volunteers and participants will be limited. More details coming soon!



- Teresa Brand who is recovering from surgery
- Boyd and Kellee Hawley and family upon the death of his mother, Helen Swaringen Hawley of Wilmington, on 6/3/21
- Anne Powell who is in the neurocritical ICU at Duke
- **Phil Young** who is in rehab at Peak Resources recovering from a recent fall

Continued prayers:

Cynthia Powell



Congratulations to **Chandler and Julie Cox** upon the birth of their daughter, Italia Katherine (Tillie Kate), born on May 22. Proud grandparents are Randy and Louise Cox. Great-grandparents are Tom and Lynn Chandler.

Susie Wall has been added to the Guilford County Sports Hall of Fame. You can read about her award at Guilford County Sports Hall of Fame adds 10 with class of 2021 | Sports | greensboro.com. Congratulations, Susie!

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The church office will be closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

> FINANCIAL GIVING UPDATE FOR 6/4/2021

YTD Actual Giving - \$488,152.13 YTD Budgeted Giving - \$629,576.88

<u>Staff</u> Senior Pastor

Ross Carter
Pastor of Discipleship

Patrick Murphy Youth Minister Chris Huneycutt

Director of Children's Ministry Marcy McAdams

Minister of Visitation Leslie Peavy

Organist/Director of Music Matt Brittain

> Choirmaster Laura Sam

Director of Aldersgate Music Clay Stevenson

Finance Manager Tammy Page

Administrative Assistant Pamela Shields

> Communications Coordinator Joanna Strelow

Building Superintendent Jackie Long

> **Maintenance** Joe Peloquin Zach Mace

Playschool/Babies Morning Out Director Rebecca Hurdle



Congratulations to our 2021 Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL

Eastern Alamance High School

Jackson Noah Faircloth Son of Kevin and Allison Faircloth

Kaelan Grace Mims Daughter of Ted and Traci Mims Granddaughter of Julian and Bert Mims

Ellis Van Peterson Son of Stacy and Anna Peterson

Walter M. Williams High School

Nazareth Elijah Hamlett Son of Willie and Leslie Hamlett

Mary Hunter Hite Daughter of Christopher and Lisa Hite Granddaughter of Mary Ann Garrison

> Carey Gregory Metts, V Son of Bubba and Andi Metts

Anna Katherine Thomas Daughter of Toby and Kristen Thomas

UNIVERSITY

Katherine Louise Cox Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management University of South Carolina Daughter of Randy and Louise Cox Granddaughter of Tom and Lynn Chandler

George Robert Ellington Bachelor of Arts in Economics UNC Chapel Hill Son of Ken and Linda Ellington Grandson of Helen Ellington

Timothy Isaiah Morgan Facemire Bachelor of Arts in Government with a minor in Leadership in the Public Interest Hampden-Sydney College Son of Carol Facemire

Rebecca Caroline Metts Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Minor in Education UNC Chapel Hill Daughter of Bubba and Andi Metts

Is there a name missing from the list above? If so, please email Pamela at pamela@frontstreetumc.org.