

# WORSHIP GUIDE




CALLED  
TO FOLLOW

RENEW - EMPOWER - BELIEVE







*Everyone is sharing God's love and grace through Jesus Christ in their everyday, 24 x 7 lives.  
So that... we are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of  
our community and the world.*



**S**OUTHPORT  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH



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ALL WORSHIP THEMES AND SPECIAL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our 2025 Worship Guide! It is with great anticipation and joy that I invite you to join us on this year-long journey of worship, reflection, and growth. This guide is much more than a schedule of sermons and services—it is a roadmap for where we believe God is leading Southport United Methodist Church in the coming year.

As we discerned the themes and series for 2025, I prayerfully considered several key questions:

- Where is God calling us to renewal, growth, and empowerment?
- How can we address the pressing needs of our church and community?
- What truths do we need to proclaim boldly in this season of our life together?

This year's worship will invite us to lean into themes of rest and sabbath, stewardship, prayer, and justice. We'll explore God's call for us to grow as disciples, embrace mystery and wonder, and strengthen both new and seasoned leaders within our church. Whether it's reflecting on our baptismal identity, unplugging from distractions, or listening for God's voice in a noisy world, each series has been designed with the hope of shaping our hearts and minds to be more faithful, connected, and empowered followers of Jesus.

We also recognize the challenges before us as a congregation. We will address the realities of raising funds for deferred maintenance, navigating changes within the broader denomination, and adapting our staffing and systems to better serve God's mission. These challenges are opportunities to grow in faith and trust, and we believe God is leading us through them toward a future full of hope.

Throughout 2025, we will celebrate pivotal moments in the Christian calendar—from Epiphany to Easter, Pentecost to Advent. We'll dive into transformative sermon series like Walking the Path of Justice, Unplugged, and Road Trip: Lessons from the Wilderness, all designed to connect scripture with the realities of our daily lives. Special services like the National Day of Prayer, Humor Sunday, and our VBS-themed celebration will provide unique opportunities to worship and grow together.

My prayer for Southport UMC this year is that we would experience both personal and communal renewal—a time to rest in God's presence, grow in faith, and rise to meet God's call to action. I invite you to make this worship journey a priority in your life. Attend regularly, participate fully, and invite others to experience the joy and hope found in Christ. Together, let us walk boldly into 2025, trusting that the God who has guided us for generations will continue to light our path.

Grace and peace,



Rev. William G. Nickrand  
Senior Pastor, Southport United Methodist Church





# 2025 Areas of Focus

The background of the page is a dark blue gradient. In the upper left, there is a faint silhouette of a person standing on a rocky outcrop, looking out over a landscape. In the upper right, there is a faint image of a white dove with its wings spread, symbolizing peace. The overall aesthetic is clean and spiritual.

## RENEW

We believe God calls us to a life of renewal—both personally and as a community. Through worship, sabbath, and spiritual practices, we hope to create space for rest and restoration in God’s presence. Our prayer is that you find a deeper sense of peace, purpose, and renewal for the journey ahead.

## EMPOWER

As followers of Christ, we are called to be bold and equipped for ministry. Through leadership development, service opportunities, and spiritual growth, we aim to empower individuals to live out their God-given calling. Our hope is that you feel confident and inspired to make a difference in the world around you.

## BELIEVE

Faith is at the heart of all we do. Together, we explore what it means to believe in a loving, active God who works through us to bring hope and transformation. Our hope is that your faith grows stronger, your questions find space, and your belief in God leads to a vibrant, life-changing relationship with Christ.

## January

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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# Epiphany



## January 2nd & 5th

Matthew 2:1-12

Guided by the Light: Following God's Star

On Epiphany, we celebrate the journey of the Magi as they followed a brilliant star, seeking the presence of God. In *Guided by the Light: Following God's Star*, we'll explore how God's light continues to guide us, inviting us to step forward in faith. This Sunday, each person will receive a "star gift"—a word to carry with them throughout the year, offering guidance, inspiration, and a reminder of God's presence. Join us as we begin the new year together, looking to the Light that leads us ever closer to God's heart.



January							Sa
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# Baptism of the Lord



## *Marked by the Waters:* Embracing Our Baptismal Identity

January 9th & 12th

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Marked by the Waters: Embracing Our Baptismal Identity

This week we commemorate the Baptism of the Lord, we reflect on the powerful moment of Jesus' baptism and the way it calls each of us to remember our own identity in Christ. We'll explore how baptism shapes who we are and sets us on a path of purpose, hope, and belonging. Just as Jesus was affirmed as God's beloved, we are invited to embrace the same assurance, letting it guide our steps and shape our lives. Join us as we celebrate the gift of baptism and rediscover what it means to be God's beloved, marked by the waters and sent into the world.

January							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

# Walking the Path of Justice



## Living Out Micah 6:8

### January 16th & 19th

Micah 6:8; Isaiah 1:16-17

Do Justice: Acting with Compassion and Courage

### January 23rd & 26th

Micah 6:8; Zechariah 7:9-10

Love Kindness: Transforming Relationships with Mercy

### Jan. 30th & Feb. 2nd

Micah 6:8; James 4:6-10

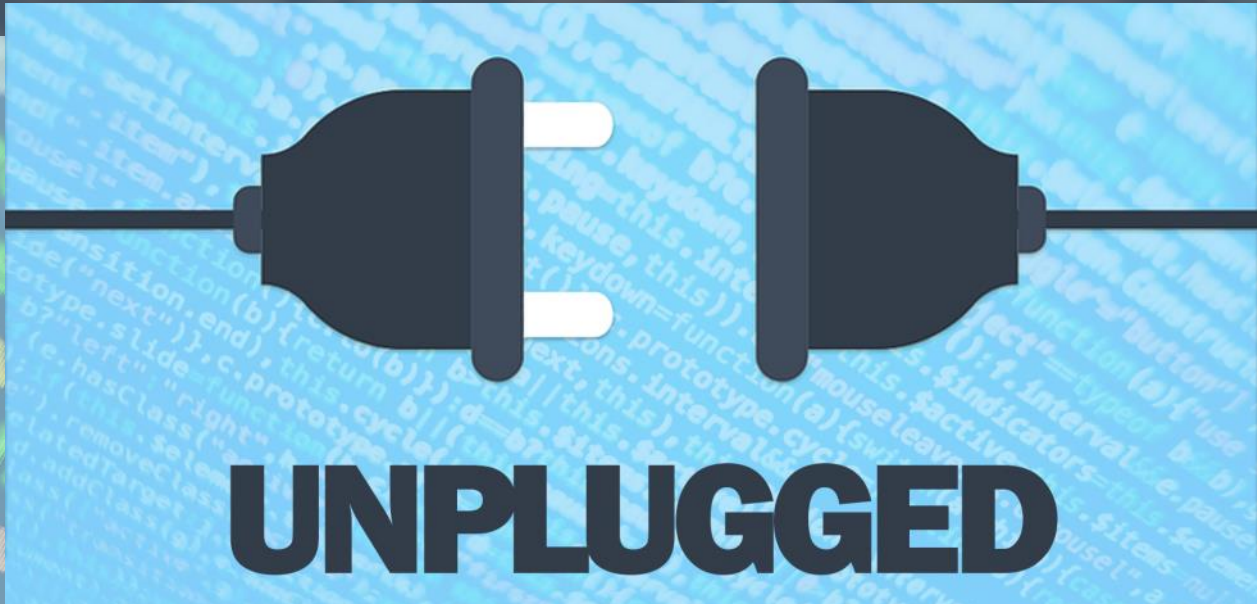
Walk Humbly: Embracing God's Vision for Justice

What does it mean to truly live out God's call to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly"? In this inspiring series, *Walking the Path of Justice: Living Out Micah 6:8*, we'll explore how to integrate justice, mercy, and humility into our daily lives, making them foundational in our walk with Christ. Each week, we'll dive into practical ways we can make a meaningful impact in our communities, embodying God's vision for justice and compassion. Join us as we answer the call to faith in action, embracing a life that reflects God's heart for the world.



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# UNPLUGGED



## February 6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

Galatians 5:22-26; Matthew 22:34-40  
Addicted to our Screens?

## February 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

Proverbs 6:16-19; 1 Corinthians 10:23-24; 31  
Avoid the Perils

## February 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

Joshua 1:5-9  
Unleash the Promise

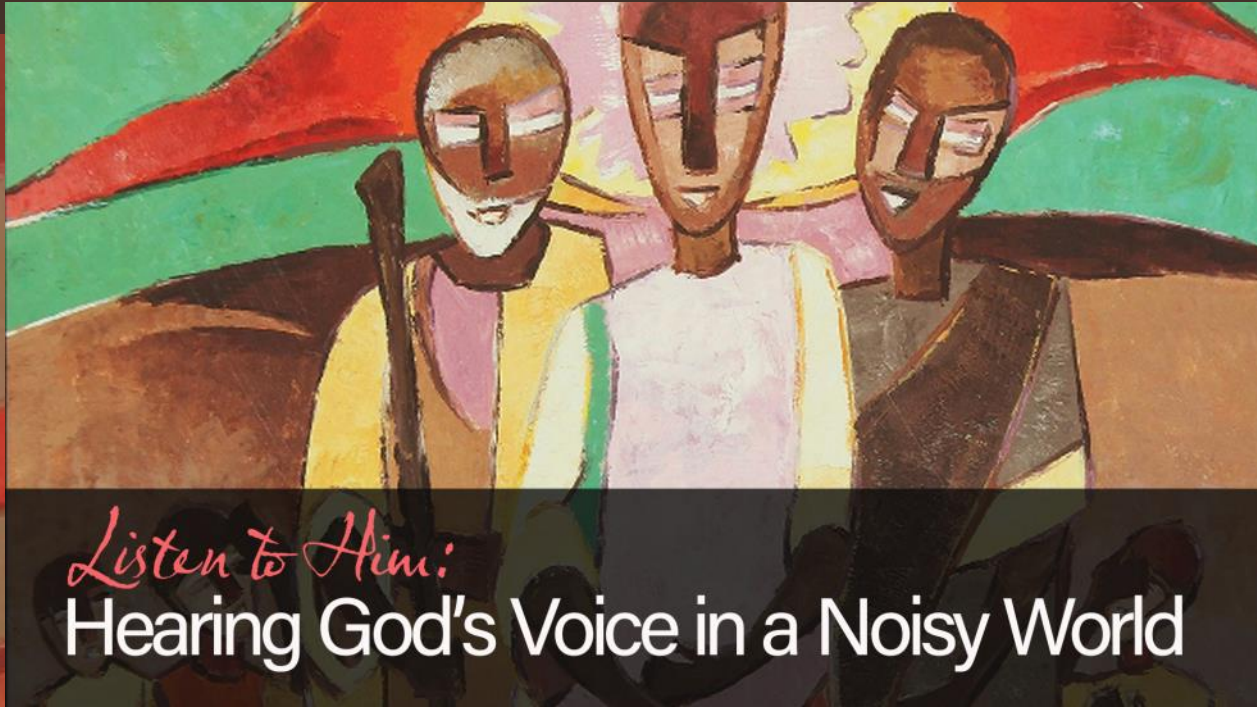
Americans spend \$145 billion on technology during the Christmas season, and we spend an average of four hours on our screens. We look at our smartphones 58 times each day, and more than 70% of us use social media. Technology touches every aspect of our lives. It holds the promise of enormous good. But misused, it can cause untold pain, leaving us feeling isolated, anxious, depressed or addicted. It's been said that technology makes a tremendous servant, but a terrible master. In this sermon series, we will explore how we can avoid the perils and unleash the promise of technology in our lives, our families, and our communities.



February							
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March							
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13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

# Transfiguration



*Listen to Him:*  
**Hearing God's Voice in a Noisy World**

**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> & March 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 Luke 9:28-36  
 Listen to Him: Hearing God's Voice in a Noisy World

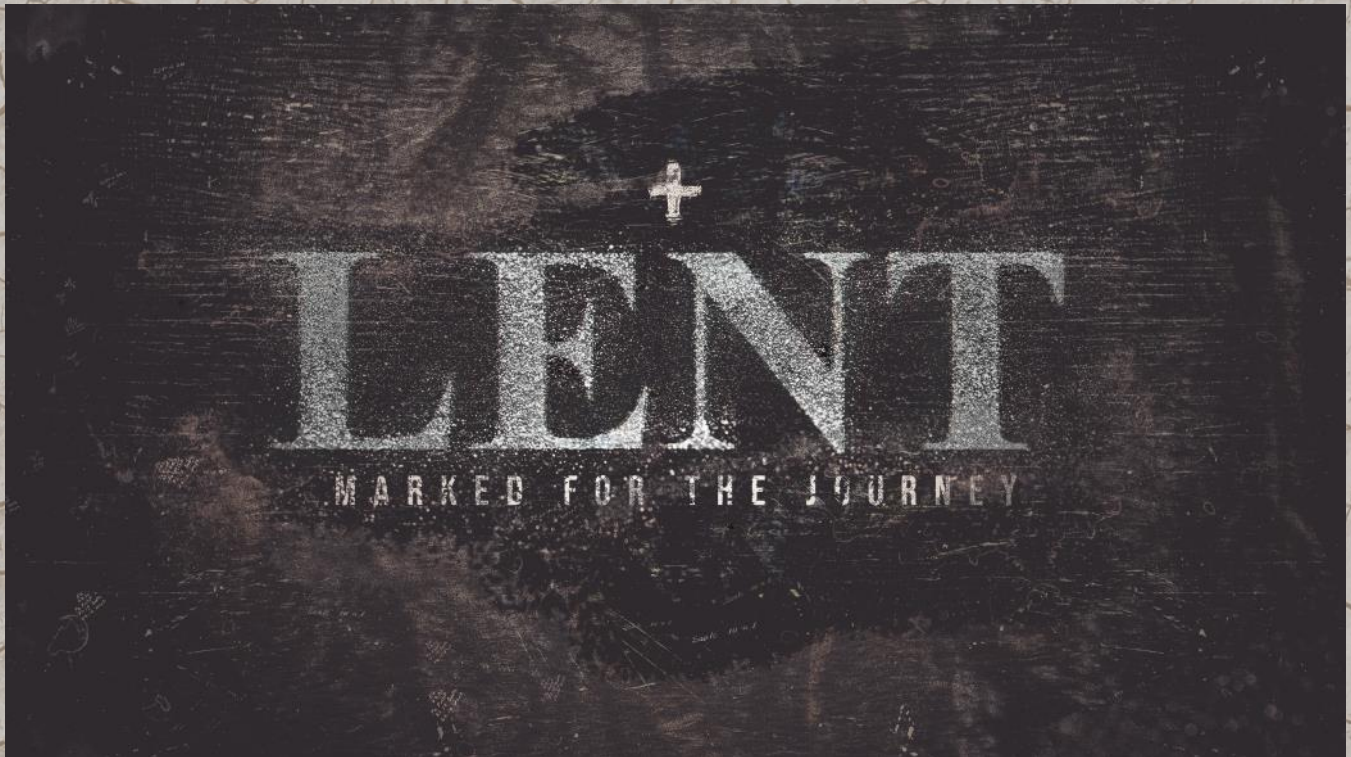
As we gather for Transfiguration Sunday, we'll reflect on that awe-inspiring moment when Jesus' glory was revealed on the mountaintop and the disciples heard God's voice urging them, "Listen to him." In a world filled with endless noise, distractions, and competing voices, how do we hear what God is saying to us? Join us as we delve into this powerful story, exploring how we can quiet our hearts, recognize God's guidance, and be shaped by Jesus' words in every part of our lives. This Sunday invites us to listen deeply and follow faithfully.



March

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
9				5	6	7	8
10	2	3	4				
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12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

# Ash Wednesday



## March 5th (Ash Wednesday)

Psalm 51:1-12; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

Marked for the Journey

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The form and content of the service focus on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.



March							
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13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April							
cw	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
14			1	2	3	4	5
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17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

# LENT



**March 6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**March 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**March 27<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

Luke 4:1-13  
 Luke 13:31-35  
 Luke 13:1-9  
 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32  
 John 12:1-8

God moves into the desert  
 God moves past all obstacles  
 God moves over the fence  
 God moves down the road  
 God moves us to empty ourselves

As we encounter the life and ministry of Jesus, we cannot stay the same. We ourselves are moved to grow and change as followers and imitators of the gospel. The comforting truth of Lent is that as we delve deeper into our own self-examination, we find that we are not alone. God is still on the move in our lives, walking with us every step as we travel the road to Easter. Throughout this series, we'll explore how God actively engages with us, encouraging transformation, deepening our faith, and inviting us to participate in the divine mission. Join us as we open our hearts to the ways God is moving in our midst, guiding us toward renewal and resurrection. Let this Lent be a time of profound reflection and joyful anticipation as we embrace the journey together.



April							
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17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

# HOLY WEEK



**Palm  
Sunday**

**April 10th &  
13th**

Luke 23:1-49

**God moves the  
cross**

**Maundy  
Thursday**

**April 17<sup>th</sup>**

John 13:1-17, 31-35

**Holy  
Communion/  
Hand Washing**

**Good  
Friday**

**April 18<sup>th</sup>**

John 18:1-19:42

**The Darkest  
Hour: A Service  
of Tenebrae**

**Easter**

**April 20<sup>th</sup>**

Luke 24:1-12

**God moves out of  
the tomb**

## April

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
14			1	2	3	4	5
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17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

# Holy Humor Worship



## April 24th & 27th

Acts 5:27-32

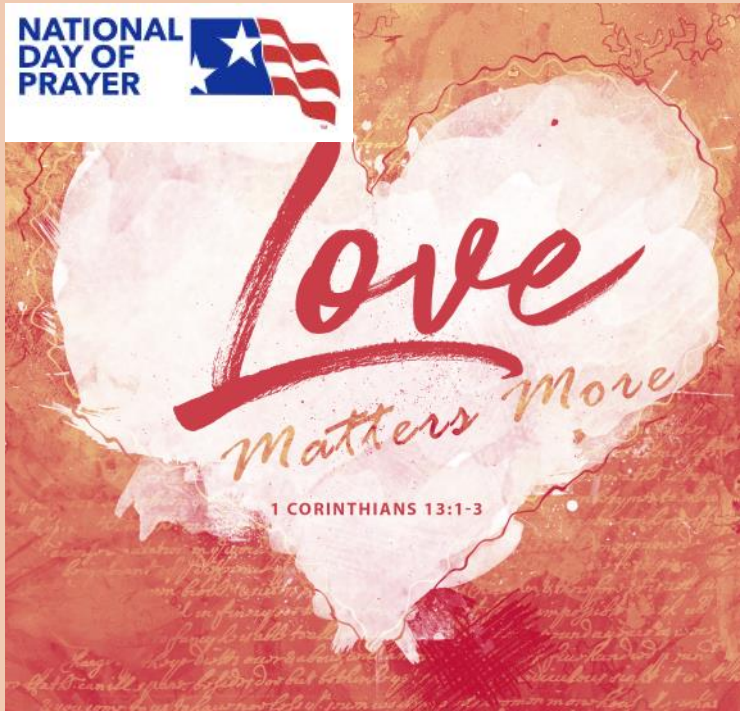
A Joyful Rebel

On April 24th and April 27th, join us for a joyful celebration rooted in the centuries-old tradition of “Holy Humor Sunday,” also known as “Bright Sunday.” Early Greek Christians observed these “days of joy and laughter” to celebrate the cosmic joke God played on sin and death through Jesus’ resurrection.

In A Joyful Rebel (Acts 5:27-32), we’ll reflect on how the apostles embraced bold faith and joy, even when faced with opposition. This special service highlights the importance of humor in our faith journey, reminding us that laughter can heal, unite, and reflect the boundless joy of life in Christ. Come ready to celebrate, smile, and experience the gift of holy joy!

May							
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22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# National Day of Prayer



Thurs. May 1st

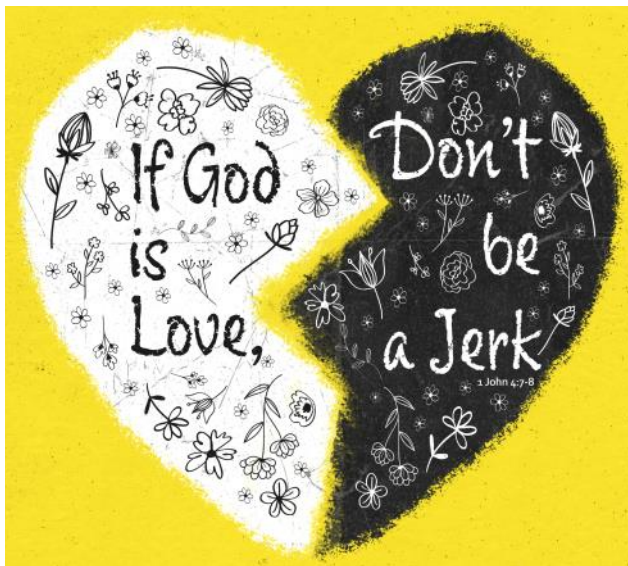
1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Love Matters More

Join us for a powerful evening of prayer, worship, and reflection as we come together for National Day of Prayer. In a time when unity and peace feel more important than ever, this special service will include a dedicated time for prayer over our nation, our community, and the world. Through heartfelt worship and songs led by our talented musicians, we'll lift our voices and spirits together, seeking guidance, hope, and healing. Whether you're coming to pray, to worship, or to reflect, we invite you to join us for this evening of togetherness and faith. All are welcome!

May							
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# If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk



May 4th

1 John 4:7-8, 11-12

If God is love, Don't be a Jerk

In a world where faith and kindness can sometimes feel at odds, what does it mean to truly embody God's love? This week, we'll explore the core of John Pavlovitz's message: that if God is love, then our lives should radiate that love in every interaction. With 1 John as our guide, we'll discuss the practical and powerful ways we can reflect God's heart in how we treat others, making sure our actions align with our beliefs. Join us as we consider what it means to live with kindness, humility, and a commitment to love—no jerks allowed!



## May

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18					1	2	3
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21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## June

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

# Voices of Inspiration

## VOICES OF INSPIRATION

*Great Lives that Light Our Way*



### May 8<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>

Proverbs 22:6

Faithful Foundations: The Power of a Mother's Influence  
(Susanna Wesley)

### May 15<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

The Weight of Glory: Longing for Home  
(C.S. Lewis)

### May 22<sup>nd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

Matthew 25:40; 1 Samuel 16:7

God at the Margins: Compassion for the Forgotten  
(Howard Thurman)

### May 29<sup>th</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup>

Luke 9:23

Costly Grace: Following Christ in a Broken World  
(Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

In our four-week sermon series, Voices of Inspiration: Great Lives that Light Our Way, we will delve into the lives and teachings of four remarkable theologians who have profoundly impacted the Christian faith. Each week, we will explore their unique insights, drawing from their writings and experiences to inspire us in our own faith journeys. Through their voices, we will discover timeless truths that guide us in navigating the complexities of life, helping us to live out our faith with courage, compassion, and conviction. Join us as we listen to these voices of inspiration and allow their wisdom to illuminate our paths.

June

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

# Pentecost



## *Pentecost* Fuel for the Flame

**June 5th & 8th**

Acts 2:1-21

Fuel for the Flame

This Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the powerful moment when God's Spirit ignited the hearts of the early believers, sparking a movement that changed the world. In Fuel for the Flame, we'll explore Acts 2:1-21, reflecting on how the Holy Spirit continues to empower us to speak, serve, and shine with love and purpose. Join us as we rekindle our own spark—and remember to wear red as we celebrate the vibrant, unstoppable fire of God's Spirit together!

June							Sa
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25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

# Vacation Bible School Celebration



**June 12th & 15th**

Psalm 25:4-6

True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

On this special Sunday after VBS, we'll delve into the theme of "True North" as we trust Jesus to guide us through the wild adventures of life. Drawing from Psalm 25:4-6, we'll reflect on how God's unwavering direction serves as our compass in a world full of challenges and distractions. As we celebrate the lessons learned during VBS, we'll also take a moment to honor the fathers and father figures who help guide us. Join us for a vibrant service that reinforces our faith and commitment to following Jesus, our True North!



June							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

# Road Trip



## June 19th & 22nd

Numbers 9:15-23  
Map Check – Finding Our Direction

## June 26th & 29th

Numbers 11:4-6, 18-23, 31-34  
Pit Stop – When We Crave the Wrong Things

## July 3rd & 6th

Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33  
Detours and Delays – Facing Our Doubts

## July 10th & 13th

Numbers 20:1-13  
Road Rage – Learning to Trust Over Time

## July 17th & 20th

Numbers 16:1-5, 28-35  
Traveling Companions – Avoiding Toxic Influences

## July 24th & 27th

Numbers 27:12-23  
Are We There Yet? – Preparing for the Promised Land

This summer, join us on a journey through the book of Numbers as we embark on our own “Road Trip: Lessons from the Wilderness.” Just as the Israelites wandered through the desert, facing challenges, discovering new beginnings, and learning to trust God’s guidance, we too will explore how our own faith journeys can shape and inspire us. Each week, we’ll uncover powerful lessons from their adventures—lessons about trust, perseverance, and community—relevant to our lives today.

As we travel together this summer, we invite you to share your own road trip photos and stories on social media, using the hashtag #WildernessJourney. Let’s celebrate the journey of faith, both past and present, as we discover how God moves with us every step of the way!



## July

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

## August

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

# Living the Call



### July 31<sup>st</sup> & August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ephesians 2:19-22; Psalm 133

Connect

### August 7<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

Colossians 2:6-7; 2 Peter 3:18

Grow

### August 14<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

Galatians 5:13-14; James 2:14-17

Serve

In this sermon series, "Living the Call," we will explore the foundational principles of our discipleship process: Connect, Grow, and Serve. Each week, we will dive deep into what it means to live out our faith through meaningful connections with God and each other, growing in our spiritual journey, and serving our community with love and purpose. Together, we will discover how these three points not only define our walk with Christ but also empower us to fulfill our calling as His disciples in the world today. Join us as we embrace the fullness of our faith and the mission to which we are called!

## August

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

## September

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
36		1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
40	28	29	30				

# FRAMES



### August 21<sup>st</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

John 4:19-24; Psalm 95:1-7  
How We View Worship

### August 28<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

Matthew 5:17-20; 2 Timothy 3:16-17  
How We View the Bible

### September 4<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11  
How We View Spiritual Gifts

### September 11<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

John 15:12-17; Acts 2:42-47  
How We View Community

### September 18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Matthew 5:13-16; Colossians 3:23-24  
How We View our Work

### September 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

Luke 15:11-32; Psalm 103:8-13; Isaiah 40:28-31  
How We View God

Join us for our 6-week sermon series, “Frames,” where we will explore the various perspectives that shape our faith and how we engage with God, Scripture, and one another. Just like a picture frame defines how we view an image, our perspectives influence how we experience worship, understand the Bible, utilize our spiritual gifts, connect in community, approach our work, and perceive God. Each week, we will examine these important aspects of our faith through Scripture, allowing us to broaden our understanding and deepen our relationship with God and each other. Come ready to shift your frame and enhance your view of faith!



October							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
40				1	2	3	4
41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

# DANGEROUS PRAYERS



Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> (World Communion Sunday)  
 Hebrews 4:16, Philippians 4:6, Psalm  
 139:23-24  
 Search Me

Oct 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
 Mark 14:3-9, Mark 12:22-24, Psalm 51:16-  
 17  
 Break Me

Oct 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Matthew 6:9-15  
 Help Me

Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
 2 Kings 19:14-19, Micah 6:8-8, Psalm  
 94:17-19  
 Strengthen Me

Oct 30<sup>th</sup> & Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> (All Saints)  
 Exodus 3:10-4:13, Jonah 1:1-3, Isaiah 6:8  
 Send Me

Do you ever wonder if God answers your prayers? Do you wish you could see the evidence that prayer changes lives? Do you long for more than playing it safe in your faith? Discover the power of authentically communicating with God, breaking out of the restrictive spiritual safety bubble, and expanding your ideas about what's possible with God. Be inspired to pray boldly, pray powerfully, pray with passion, and trade ineffective prayers and lukewarm faith for raw, daring prayers that will transform your daily life.



## November

CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

# Stewardship Series



### November 6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

When Dreams Become Nightmares

### November 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

Hebrews 13:5-6

Cultivating Contentment

### November 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Defined by Generosity

Join us for a transformative three-week sermon series based on Adam Hamilton's book, "Enough." In a world driven by consumerism and the pursuit of more, we will explore biblical principles of contentment, generosity, and true abundance. Together, we'll discover how to find peace in what we have, embrace a spirit of generosity, and redefine our lives by recognizing that we are already enough. Let's embark on this journey to cultivate gratitude and live with intention!



November							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

December							
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
48		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1	28	29	30	31			

# Advent



**November 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 24:36-44  
The Wonder of Hope

**December 4<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12  
The Wonder of Peace

**December 11<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11  
The Wonder of Joy

**December 18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25  
The Wonder of Love

**December 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Isaiah 63:7-9; Matthew 2:13-23  
The Wonder of New Beginnings

This Advent season, we invite you to rediscover The Wonder of it All. In the hustle and rush of holiday preparations, let's slow down to marvel at the mystery and awe woven throughout the story of Christ's coming. Each Sunday, we'll explore one of Advent's timeless themes—hope, peace, joy, and love—through fresh eyes, engaging our hearts in the wonder of God's promises. With inspiring messages rooted in the words of prophets and the story of Jesus' birth, this series brings us back to the beauty and purpose of the season.

Join us for a season filled with anticipation and worship, culminating in a Christmas Eve celebration of the wonder of Immanuel—God with us. Whether you're watching online or gathering with us in person, come experience the true meaning of Advent.

December							Sa
CW	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
48		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1	28	29	30	31			

# Advent

## Blue Christmas & Christmas Eve

### Evening of December 21st

Psalm 34:18; John 1:1-5  
The Light in Our Darkness

On the longest night of the year, we gather for a sacred time of worship to acknowledge the pain and grief that can accompany the Christmas season. For those carrying heavy hearts, facing loss, or simply longing for peace, this service offers space to pause, reflect, and find comfort in the presence of God.

Through the theme of The Light in Our Darkness, we'll reflect on scriptures that remind us God is near to the brokenhearted and that the light of Christ shines even in our darkest moments. With gentle music, candlelight, and prayers of hope, this special service creates a space for healing, connection, and the quiet wonder of God's love. Come as you are and rest in the assurance that you are not alone.



### December 24<sup>th</sup>

Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20  
The Wonder of Immanuel

On this holy night, we gather to celebrate the wonder of Immanuel—God with us. Through scripture, carols, and the lighting of candles, we reflect on Christ's birth, the light Jesus brings into our lives, and the hope Jesus offers to all. Whether filled with joy or seeking peace, this service invites you to encounter the true meaning of Christmas. Join us for a meaningful time of worship as we welcome the Christ child together.





## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pat Hulfachor  
Rev. William Nickrand  
Karen Decatur  
Sherry Davis  
Doug Lewis  
Dr. Travis Miller  
Margaret Trammell  
Kathy Smith  
Jeff Horne  
Kathy Campbell



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## SERVICE TIMES

Online

Sunday @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Traditional

10:30 a.m.- Contemporary

Thursday

6:30 p.m.- Casual Service

*Everyone is sharing God's love and grace through Jesus Christ in their everyday, 24 x 7 lives.  
So that... we are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world.*