



Hartsville United Methodist Church

224 River Street, Hartsville, TN 37074

615-374-2400 ♦ www.hartsvilleumc.org

Methodist Messenger

November 2024

A Word from Pastor Tim:

Then Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Let me return to my own people in Egypt to see if any of them are still alive.” Jethro said, “Go, and I wish you well.” Now the Lord had said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all those who wanted to kill you are dead.” So Moses took his wife and sons, put them on a donkey and started back to Egypt. And he took the staff of God in his hand. The Lord said to Moses, “When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go. Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the Lord says: Israel is my firstborn son, and I told you, “Let my son go, so he may worship me.” But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.’” Exodus 4:18-23

This is a devotional written by JD Walt.

Penultimate—that’s the word of the day. It means something like “secondary” or “second to the ultimate.” And that’s the problem. We get caught up in penultimate things to the point we lose sight of the ultimate thing. We come to a moment where we need to get some altitude over our situation. We need to remember the big picture, to see beyond the penultimate to the ultimate. There is a critical word that has gotten lost in all of the conversations back and forth between Moses and God. We see it in verse 23 as God tells Moses what to say to Pharaoh:

“Let my son go, so he may worship me.”

We saw it earlier when God told Moses the confirming sign of the whole affair would be that they would worship God on this mountain. Before it’s all said and done, we will hear this refrain over and over and over again: “Let my people go, so that they may worship me.” “Let my people go” is penultimate; “so that they may worship me” is ultimate.

The penultimate purpose of deliverance is for the good of the people. The ultimate purpose of deliverance is for the glory of God. This is why worship matters so much. We were created to worship God. You and I and every other person on the face of planet Earth were made for one thing and one thing only: to worship the one true and living God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We aren’t worshippers because we worship. We worship because we are worshippers.

Right up to the present moment, history shows us human beings will worship anything and everything under the sun, including the sun! The very essence of salvation

and deliverance is to be rescued from the slavish oppression of a false god and brought into the gracious dominion of the true and living God. When was the last time you worshipped God?

To worship God is to orient one's entire being and life around the presence, purpose, and power of the God of heaven and earth, whom to know is to love. It is to live with an openhearted, single-minded, undivided love for God, his creation, and especially people. When we worship God, he brings our entire existence into the peace-filled, joyful life of love-governed power we were made for.

God knows our hearts will not rest until they rest in him; hence, his mission is to deliver us from our every unholy attachment, broken inclination, and involuntary bondage to worship false gods. We can think our mission is to do this good deed and give to that good cause and wrap it all up in religious garb and completely miss the point of the whole thing—more worshippers bringing more worship to God.

As John Piper famously says, “Missions exist because worship doesn't.” When we forget the ultimate thing, it's only a matter of time before the penultimate things become so much noise.

Deliverance is penultimate. Worship is ultimate. God saves, delivers, redeems, and blesses us so we can be burning bushes—on fire but not consumed—in our homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, churches, grocery stores, city centers, and everywhere else under the sun.

Christian, you were meant for glory. You are made to be on fire with the God who made you. He made you to burn brightly for his glory and for your neighbor's gain and for your own good—indeed, for the deepest and most satisfying life you never imagined possible.

Community Thanksgiving Service

Join us for our annual Community Thanksgiving Service this year. It will be held on November 24th at 5 PM here at Hartsville First United Methodist Church. All churches and Christians of the county are invited to come and give thanks to our God as we celebrate his blessings in our life over this past year.

Our dear brother and friend from First Baptist Church, Jack McCall, will deliver the message. Seth Thurman and our very own choir will lead us in a time of worship. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity, and invite a neighbor.

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME AT 10 AM. THE CHOICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Class	Ages	Leader	Location
Nursery	Newborn – 3yo	Gilda	Downstairs Nursery
Youth Group	4yo- 5 th grade	Kathy R.	Youth Classroom
John Wesley Class	18yo and up	John O.	Upstairs Classroom

*Sunday School
For Learning*

Mission of the Month



Every year, at Christmas time, this church hands out incredibly well stocked food boxes. To do that we need your help. In addition to our normal ways of collecting food and donations, we are naming the food boxes as the recipient of this month's special offering.

You can give by leaving donations at the altar rail during communion. Or give during any collection by writing "Food Boxes on the memo line of a check or on an offering envelope.

Christmas Dinner

It's that time again. The Christmas season is upon us. And each year we like to get together as a church family and have a Christmas dinner. We will be meeting this year on December 18th at 6 PM at Farmers Harvest restaurant.

For this dinner, you must sign up. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet in the narthex over the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions, see Kathy Dies.

PRAYER LIST

The backbone of a church is prayer. Place this somewhere you will see it often. Then let every sighting be a reminder to pray for these folks. Please update the church when you can on those on this list and on others who need to be added. Thank you.

Alice White	Flo Dunavant
Maxton Hawkins	Rosemary Denham
Alice Livingston	Sean Engle
Jim Hunt	Bert Gammons
Eddie Taylor	Beth Rolin
Josh Milton	Jeff Wyatt
Amanda Garey	Nancy Barley
Tia Davis	Tom Harris
Helen & Don Voss	Jill Harper
Levi Owen	David Parker
Ashley Warwick	Wendy Finn
Bill & Vivian Arnold	Jim Marshall
Don Wright	Family of Bobby Thurman

Food Boxes

It's time to start collecting food and donations for our annual food boxes again. Each year, we give out the most wonderful food boxes to those that are in need. This allows people to gather for Christmas dinner without having they added burden of purchasing the food.

As in years past, we will have a sign-up sheet for you to let us know what you will be bringing. Or you can make donations for the items we will purchase directly. For any questions or extra information, see Beth Crabtree.

Pig Roast and Auction

This year's annual pig roast will be held at the church on November 9th. Prices will be \$10 per plate or \$12 per pound. The auction will be online through Carmen Reality. The items will be available on the site beginning at the end of October and will close November 8th. All purchases will be picked up the day of the BBQ.

Decorating the church

Christmas is just around the corner. It's almost time to make it look that way. Let's gather at 5 PM on November 25. We will eat dinner first and then we will decorate the church Christmas style.

Church council meeting

The date of our church council meeting will be on November 17th. After church that Sunday, we will have a fellowship meal downstairs. Everyone is invited. After the meal we ask that the council members stay for a church council meeting. What happens at those meetings? What are we planning for this church for the next few months? Everyone is invited to stay if they wish and be a part of the council meeting. You don't have to be an elected member to stay for the meeting.

Chili supper

Chapel Hill UMC will host their annual chili supper fundraiser on November 23 at the church from 4-7pm. Make plans to come and get some chili, or a cake, or a pound of barbecue. They deliver too! Just call (615) 735-1462 to make make arrangements.

Christmas Bazaar

Have you been a part of our Christmas Bazaar before? Well, we certainly need your help this year. We need your gently used Christmas decor items. That could be Christmas trees, wreaths, ornaments, or any kind of decorations for the season. These items can be brought to the church where they will be sold as a fundraiser for the United Methodist Women's group. If you have any questions, talk to Natalie.

Coat Drive

We need coats and jackets of all sizes for those affected by Hurricane Helene. Melissa Robertson will be delivering them to East Tn. Please bring them in to the church, or to her, by November 7th to be included in that delivery.

Bible Study

Bible study is back! Our weekly bible study is starting back November 5th. We meet each Tuesday at 6PM at Goose Creek Coffee Café. Come join us.

Nov-24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 All Saint's Day	7	5	6	7	8	9 BBQ Pickup Auction Items
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Fellowship Meal Council Mtg	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Community Service 5PM	25 Decorate Church 5PM	26	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving	29	30

Sunday Servants:

Prayer Team

03- John Oliver
10- Natilie Knudsen
17- Zandria Gwin
24- Kathy Lindsey

Reader

03 - Hadley Boswell
10- Robbie Jones
17- J Mac Crabtree
24 - Morgan Robertson

Kid's Message

03- Kathy Atwood
10-
17- Beth Crabtree
24 - Melissa Robertson

Flowers

03- Barbara Garren
10- Kathy Dies
17- Kathy Robertson
24-

Ushers

Dillehay Family

Help Center:

Ramen

The Chapel Hill Chronicle



Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

92 Beasley Bend Road in Riddleton, TN
Sunday Worship at 9 AM
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

“America without her soldiers would be like God without His Angels.” ~Claudia Pemberton

BIRTHDAYS:

Emilee Hensley	November 3 rd
Becky Hoff	November 4 th
Rebecca Draper	November 14 th
Crickett Mitchell	November 14 th
Austin Johnson	November 18 th
Jody Johnson	November 19 th
Larry Robb	November 19 th
Cherry Shackelford	November 30 th

Daylight Savings ends at 2:00 a.m., November 3, 2024. Set your clock back one (1) hour.

Election Day	November 5th
Veterans Day	November 11th
Thanksgiving Day	November 28th

Take out/Delivery Soup and Chili Supper at Chapel Hill UMC, 92 Beasley’s Bend Road, Riddleton, Tennessee, Saturday, November 23, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. \$6.00 per meal/drink and dessert included.

Have you missed our weekly Bible Study? Well, if you have or you want to participate, come to Bible Study at 6:00 p.m., November 5, 2024, at the Goose Creek Coffee Shop. Time well spent.

Let us be thankful for our Preachers and their families. Pray for them, love them, behold them, for these are the women and men that take our spirituality seriously and are working here on Earth to fill our hearts with God’s love, our minds with God’s words, thoughts, prayers, and our actions with a “What would Jesus do” attitude. Their families being a lovely bonus in our lives. They give a lot of themselves for us.

I have had so many wonderful Pastors at CHUMC. There was Pastor Erwin Gaines who united me in marriage with my husband, Steve, on a rainy night at the HUMC, very many years ago. I write this on the day that Steve was born 74 years ago. In this same paragraph I have to go on to say that there was Pastor Charles Smith, 28 years later, who ushered our goodbyes to Steve with his beautiful talent of music and song, and a few sweet words. Pastor Tom Gibson who used many words to help heal us in his exciting, soothing wordsmith style. How could I not love these Pastors forever?

There was Pastor Norman Weber who was frank in saying, “Get up and get busy, Chapel Hill, make a difference for others and let the community know what your church is all about and that you would like to see them in this church every Sunday. Then right after, there was Pastor Stephen Sanders, who made a difference by seeing need in others, no matter who they were and put us together in love with different cultures, races, beliefs that produced tremendous growth and activity in our Church and in our hearts. Stephen also baptized my son, encouraged his music. How could we not always love and thank them dearly?

There was Pastor John Purdue who encouraged our youth into educations and degrees. He realized one with a calling for preaching and is now preaching with a Masters, all with John’s help. He thrilled the youth by playing soccer, football, and catch with them. My son liked him so much that you could say he loved him. Youth could talk to John. There was Eric, Greg, Abraham, all to love and be thankful for. All three had such cute little boys. God has blessed us.

Presently, we have a fine present in a Pastor with Tim and his happy family. I am always so inspired and hopeful after spending any time with Tim and his family. They are a very solid, happy family. What inspires me so much is that they have ordinary problems in their family like we all do, some big problems, but they don’t let those problems define their family. They use a lot of prayer, patience, understanding and they work to find solutions, and have fun along the way in their prayer and research and problem solving. They have the kind of “Don’t be sad, help someone.” attitude. Tim does the same involving our churches. Tim is a thinker. He sees a problem and fixes it. He is so positive and seems to think there is a solution for everything. I have observed through Tim’s time with us thus far of how important all God’s churches are to each other. Different denominations, doctrines, it doesn’t matter. We all need each other, and we are always going to need each other. That is God’s plan, not man’s plan. That’s how it works. God is our common denominator. It takes time and patience and that’s what Tim has. We all need to stay on the high road with each other. Keep happiness, forgiveness and thankfulness in our hearts constantly. God wants us to strive to understand each other in His name. Together we are strong, beautiful and pleasing to God and to each other.

That is what I am thankful for this Thanksgiving Season, having all this love, wisdom and help from all these many pastors, all these many seasons of my life. Thank you, God, for the Pastors that have brought me/us thus far. Bless them, keep them strong and bless us, fill us with your love and keep your Houses of Worship going on forever. Until Jesus comes back.

Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving, Pastors.
~ Chapel Hill UMC

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Hartsville First United Methodist Church
224 River Street
Hartsville, TN 37074

Recipe Corner

Candied Sweet Potatoes
By Linda McDonald

5 medium sweet potatoes
1 cup sugar
2 Tbsp plain flour
1 stick butter

Peel potatoes and slice into 3/4 inch thick slices. Place in 3 quart baking dish.

Mix sugar and flour together and sprinkle over potatoes.

Top with stick of butter cut up in small pieces.

Cover casserole and bake for one hour at 350

Want to submit a recipe? Send it to Pastor Tim!