

**Lectionary
July 2017**

Fourth Day after Pentecost
July 2, Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23,
Matthew 10:40-42

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 9, Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67, Psalm 45:10
-17, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 16, Genesis 25:19-34, Psalm 119:105-112,
Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24,
Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 105:1-11, 45b,
Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

2017 Budget Information

Administrative	\$346,875.18
Council on Ministries	\$137,988.90
Committee on Finance	\$ 5,000.00
Board of Trustees	\$199,207.00
Total 2017 Budget	\$698,071.08
Weekly Amount Needed	\$13,251.37
Monthly Amount Needed	\$57,422.59
Amount Received in May	\$50,913.47
Thank You	

United Methodist Men Update

**Meeting
Fellowship Hall
July 8, 2017
8:30 AM**

Happy Anniversary

- 2 July – James and Delores Scott
- 6 July – Raymond and Sarah Singleton
- 6 July – Rayford and Ruth Richardson
- 8 July – Albert and Shelia Humphrey
- 10 July – F. Beatty and Louise Thomas
- 14 July – Darryl and Cashia Kemp
- 15 July – James and Mary Alston
- 19 July – Cedrick and Charlene Sweeper
- 21 July – John and Marie Montgomery
- 23 July – Preston and Vernita Cobbs
- 23 July – Keith and Marilyn Bailey
- 24 July – Solomon and Ella Mae Burwick



“For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer. In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, *constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.” 1 Timothy 4:4-6

Greetings Beloved of the Lord Jesus Christ, I greet you in the most precious name of God, our Creator, and Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and the ever empowering presence of the Holy Spirit. I am excited by the opportunities God has set before us as we began this second stage of our journey together at Francis Burns.

It is my hope and prayer that we will continue our journey together with our focus on becoming healthier in every aspect of life and living (individually, spiritually, physically, emotionally, economically, communally, and congregationally) as we seek God’s will for us and our communities through a life disciplined through prayer, studying and living the Word of God daily, worshipping together in spirit and truth as often as we gather, and then go out scattering and sharing the sweet gospel of Jesus Christ into our communities and the world.

It is also my hope to see you on the Trail!
Agape-Shalom,

James L. Friday, A Lead Disciple of Christ

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 01 Lillian Hill | 10 Emory Ashton Buggs |
| 02 Alfred "Trey" Doby | 11 Sherri Jenkins |
| 02 Angela Cobbs Meadows | 12 Alisha Cave |
| 02 Andrea Cobbs | 12 Laila Imani Leshawn Hamilton |
| 02 Flora Dixon | 14 Dadryia Dessasure Littlejohn |
| 02 Todd Asher Thomas | 18 Dargen Brabham |
| 03 James Scott, Jr | 19 Pam Thomas |
| 03 Amina White | 19 Jakiya Noble Evans |
| 04 Damon Washington | 23 Dr. Albert Humphrey |
| 04 Nettie Greene | 23 Rachel C. Bourke |
| 05 Rev John Pearson | 25 Cynthia Bennett |
| 06 Madison Tucker | 25 Renee Cave |
| 06 Gregory Gass | 26 Kirah Tucker |
| 08 Aisha Noble | 27 Ella Ramey |
| 09 Rebecca Eleazer | 29 Rudy Harris |
| 09 Leroy Wideman, Jr | 29 Desia Truesdale |
| 09 James Wright | 31 Joyce Abel |
| 10 LeeVette Malloy | |
| 10 Jeffrey Smith | |



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Burns Connection

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Prayer – The World’s Largest Wireless Network

On Tuesday morning, August 2, 2016, I made a brief stop at a friend’s house. As I maneuvered out of the community in which she lived, I noticed a marquee at one of the community churches. It proclaimed, “Prayer - The World’s Largest Wireless Network.” It brought a smile to my face and an Amen from my mouth. Yes, God’s network can be reached the world over and is superior to man’s. It doesn’t cost one red cent and is not complicated. You won’t need a modem, there are no hook ups and you don’t have to deal with inefficiencies. With outstretched arms, He reaches out and connects with everyone. Our God is so amazing and no one or anything in this world can compare to His miraculous power.

There are so many means by which we make personal connections on a daily basis. We reach our relatives, friends, neighbors, church family and co-workers by cellphone, landline, facebook, facetime, skype, instagram, twitter, oovoo, snapchat, linkedin, etc. These seem to be quick and relatively easy ways to get our message from one person to another. However, many issues may be encountered with manmade networks. We sometimes experience dropped calls, blocked calls, fuzziness, power outages, bad connections, hackers and unpaid bills result in no calls. But one thing is for certain, you always have an open line of communication that never fails when you use God’s network.....“Prayer.” The line is never busy, the circuits are never down, and you will not have to leave a message on voicemail. Never will you have to worry or fear that your call will not be answered or returned. You will never have to wonder (depending on your plan) if your minutes will run out. Why? Because Jesus said in His word that He will always be there. One of the greatest privileges we enjoy as children of God is the knowledge that at any time (be it the early hours of the morning or late in the midnight hour) we can communicate with our heavenly Father. His time and space are unlimited. **Psalm 145:18-19 reads, “THE Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on Him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; He also hears their cry and saves them.”**

God is so great, miraculous, powerful, mighty, omnipotent, caring and faithful. It doesn’t matter what our past looked like, or where we are in our relationship with God right now. No one has precedent. God’s attitude toward us is always one of

“Please let Me hear from you.” You will never have to entertain the idea of the other party seeing your number and refuse to answer. He will answer before the first ring because He knows all. God wants us to make use of His network of prayer. In doing so, we grow in the Lord. The Psalmist David cried out, **“O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.”**

God is always listening, always has time for us and He cares. Give God a call when all is well and when you’re feeling down and out. I found this quote as I was reading and I whole-heartedly agree: “If you only pray when you’re in trouble.....you’re in trouble.”

In His Service,
Ava Doby

UMW Update

Greetings Everyone:

The women of the church, spearheaded by the United Methodist Women, prepared the Wednesday, June 14th meal for Vacation Bible School attendees. Sincere thanks are extended to everyone who gave monetary donations and food items as well as to those who helped with preparation and serving of the food to approximately 60 -75 men, women, children and youth. Collectively, we put our faith, hope and love in action.



July 11, 2017, has been designated for a **mission trip to Johns Island, South Carolina**. If we have enough interested persons, we can secure the bus and leave the church at approximately 1:00 PM. We will be there to visit with the residents, assist with a project, and participate in the seafood jamboree that starts around 6:00PM. It may be close to 10:00PM when we return to the church. Contact Sheila Humphrey, Social Action Coordinator, (788-3246) for more details.

Francis Burns UMW **local unit meeting** will be held **Sunday, July 16, 2017**, in the Fellowship Hall **at 4:00PM**. Theme: “A Community in Action Against Human Trafficking.” All women and youth are welcome to attend.

Plans are underway to have four UMW members and two youth from our local church to attend **SCCUMW Mission U** at Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, SC **July 27 – 30, 2017**. Reflections from the event will appear in the August edition of the *Burns Connection*.

To God be the Glory for all He continues to do in our lives.

Carrie R. Murray. President, Francis Burns UMW