

MEADOWVIEW MESSENGER

Meadowview United Methodist Church

Where Christian Caring Comes to Life

29043 Walker Lane, (PO Box 255), Meadowview, VA 24361
meadowviewumc@comcast.net

October 2019 Edition

Volume 2, Issue 10

The Pastor's Pondering:

It's Harvest Time

Recently someone offered to bake me an apple pie from the apples picked from her very own orchid. I saw pumpkins in the stores and children running around in pumpkin patches and enjoying the fruit of someone's labor. In general, many people are enjoying the fruits of their labor, for it is harvest time. I realize that it is a time to reap what has been sown. The time when the planter or grower harvests what has been planted and is now ripe to pick.

Jesus said, "The harvest is ripe" two thousand years ago. The harvest is still ripe today! The problem is there are few workers to bring in the harvest. We need to pray to the Lord to send workers.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:35-38)

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:34-36)

"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. Go your way;" (Luke 10:2-3)

In clear and certain words Jesus declares that this world is 'ripe', 'great' and ready for harvest! Of course Jesus is speaking about people.

Jesus went to the people where they were and he preached the Gospel and healed the people. Jesus saw the people and their needs. He saw how they struggled and their pains and heartaches. Many had lost their way because they had stopped following the Shepherd. Jesus spoke to the disciples and said, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but there are so few workers.

Then Jesus said, Pray! But what do we pray for? We pray for "God to send" workers who will bring in the harvest; for if God sends forth the workers, we can be assured they will work.

Then Jesus sent forth the laborers.

In this passage Jesus makes it clear that the problem is not with the harvest but that there are not enough workers to do the work.

It seems to me that so often we do everything but go out to reach the lost for Jesus Christ. We are experts at finding ways to feel we are doing 'great' things for Jesus and others yet day after day and week after week and year after year we personally never lead anyone to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

The question is not whether God wants people saved but do we want people saved? The question is do we want to go and tell the people about Jesus Christ and his saving grace? We are to pray about everything. That includes the lost for sure. However the prayer focus of Jesus is for us to pray for the Lord to send laborers into the harvest.

We are to pray for the witnesses! Pray for someone to go! Will "You" be that witness!

Pray for someone to say the right words at the right time in the power of the Holy Spirit. Will you be that person?

Pray and give and support the people going forth in evangelism reaching the lost! Will you pray, give, and go forth and evangelize so the harvest can come in?

“How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:14-15)

God is not willing that any should perish. Like the lost sheep we are to go and find the one who is lost.

Like the lost coin, we are to search for it until we find it. Like the banquet dinner invitation, we are to go and invite. I could go on and on, but the message of Jesus is clear. Go, Tell, Invite!

The fields are white with fruit and ready to be harvested. Can you spare time to help with the harvest? Can you go and do what must be done for Jesus’ sake? Won’t you say “yes” to be a witness for Jesus Christ?

“Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.” Won’t you answer the call and become a harvester for Jesus Christ? Want you say “yes” to the clear call of Jesus! “Here am I Lord, send me!”

Calendar for October 2019:

10	5:30 p.m.	Santa Pals sign-ups
11	5:30 p.m.	Santa Pals sign-ups
12	10:00 a.m.	Santa Pals sign-ups
18 & 19	????	MV Yard sale
22		Older Adult outing to Elk Gardens

Normal (repeating) schedule:

Sunday: Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School @ 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday: Choir practice @ 9:00 a.m.
 Wednesday: Cantata Choir practice @ 6:00 p.m. @ SG

Santa Pals Volunteers Needed!

Sign ups this year are Thursday, Oct 10 & Friday, Oct 11 from 5:30-7:30 and Saturday, Oct 12 from 10:00-12:00. We need volunteers to be at the church to help families coming to sign their child(ren) up to receive assistance at Christmas. Please let Becky know if you are available (698-8750 or rmckinney@wcs.k12.va.us). If you can't stay the entire time, we can do shifts. There will be more volunteer opportunities available for Santa Pals in December.

Conference Dates:

11/03 @ 5:30 p.m.: Charge Conf. @ Carvosso UMC

Choir practice for Joint Christmas Cantata:

MV& SG Christmas Cantata choir practice will be on Wednesdays 6:00 to 7:00 pm at SG’s Sanctuary. The first practice (09/18/2019) was very beautiful and promising. This is an “all singers program” for both churches’ joint Christmas Cantata on 12/15. Please join us; your goodwill, God’s given talent, and stewardship are required for God’s worship and praise!

Prayer Concerns for Our Church Family

Anita Coulthard	Joanna Dennstaedt
B Neese	Skeeter Yeatts
Peggy Bolling	Doris Quintana
Wade Blevins	Judy Briscoe
Lily Mehl	Georgia Moore
Wanda Kealey	Malcolm Nutter
Susan Rasnick	Linda Skeen
Mack Boyd	Christine Puttock
Jeremy Weaver	Beulah Stringer
Haley Charlton	Lynn Baggett
Tony Smith	Brien Shirey
Adeline Littleton	Diane Mash Jones
Christina Reynolds	Nairn Family

*If you need to add someone to the prayer list or are ready to have someone taken off, please contact Annette Sumrell at shadygrove_umc@yahoo.com or 276-206-3243 (call or text).

Bible Study – 2 choices

Pastor Barbara will be leading a Bible study on Wednesdays from 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. and on Sundays from 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. beginning Sept. 22. Both will be held at Shady Grove.

NOTE:

Pastor Barbara will be on vacation from Oct. 7-14; Jane Blevins will be preaching for her on Oct. 13. She is also on call for Federal jury duty from Oct. 14-Dec. 6.

Contact info for Pastor Barbara:

Email: pastordoyle1209@gmail.com
 Phone: 276-525-1637 (home); 423-341-2198 (cell)

NOTE: When referencing the pastor, please use “Pastor Barbara” or “Pastor” or “Pastor Barb.”