

Sunday
July 14, 2019
10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Hank Stamm

Becoming disciples,
serving God's world.



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Plain print indicates worship leader.

Bold print indicates the people.

*Indicates please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, and Ministry Opportunities

***Opening Song: #2223** They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

*Prayer Litany

They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

As a church family, dads, moms, sisters, brothers, you have supported these youth and those who have gone before on this journey.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. We will work with each other, we will work side by side And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

Leader to mission group: Name dreams you hear from Nashville, Tennessee.

(Group speaks aloud the hopes and dreams of the mission and people they served.)

Leader to congregation: Name the transformation you hope to see here in Vicksburg in your own life.

(Congregation speaks aloud the transformations they hope to see.)

All praise to our God from whom all things come. All praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son. All praise to the Spirit who makes us one. They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Reading: Luke 10:29-37

Today, we gather together as neighbors to celebrate service to other neighbors. We celebrate connecting to each other across different places and pray those bonds will grow stronger through missional experiences. We rejoice to meet new neighbors in person and work together with them to embody God's love in community. We've committed to receive God's love and be open to new ideas ourselves since

our return to this community, empowered for long-term involvement in change toward a just world for all. May the love of neighbor be made real in this sharing and experience.

Pass the Peace

Please greet your neighbor seated next to you.

Kids Hope Moment ~ Sharon Pendola

Reading: Matthew 22:36-40

When we are in mission as a church, these twin statements converge as one. When we are fully physically, spiritually and mentally present with others in different places and circumstances, we express a love of God with our whole self. As we learn and grow from the experiences, our neighbor's life becomes entwined with ours. It is a love by God and will not let us go.

Response

We serve to be present with one another and with those whom God puts before us.

Love God. Love Neighbor.

We serve to make a change for good in our own lives and in the lives of others.

Love God. Love Neighbor.

We serve to experience God in new and powerful ways.

Love God. Love Neighbor.

We serve so we can become empowered to work for a just world for all.

Please turn to a neighbor and repeat with me.

As you go, I go with you: awed by God's wonder present with my prayers; changed by your commitment and empowered to work together for a just world for all.

God calls us into the world to accept the cost and joy of discipleship. For the sake of God's wholeness, discipleship leads us to meet new people and enter new places where people have difficulty and where they make joy. We are called to be a church valuing action. It is not enough to talk about God's good news or to act in ways to put ourselves at the center. A mission trip or giving a child hope offer only two opportunities to get personally involved, to reflect and put words to the experience, and act in order to make God's love deep and wide in

the world. A church that "talks the walk" and "walks the talk" will be dynamic as we address need and acceptance, helping to shape a world where access and bounty are for all.

May we commit our whole lives to loving God with all our heart, soul and might. We pray to be part of this Kingdom-culture of engaged action to change the world for God's good.

As a congregation, we are taking this moment to celebrate one woman who has committed her life to loving God with all of her heart, all of her soul, and all of her might, who has engaged in action to change the culture of this world. A woman who has lived Deuteronomy 6:7 and impressed the laws of God on her children. She talked about them when at home and when walking along the road, when lying down and when getting up. Laverne Swinehart may not be a youth on this mission trip, but she has lived a life each of these youth should strive to live.

Baptismal Covenant

We invite Laverne Swinehart to please come forward.

Response

Moving out of our comfort zones allows us to see God in expanded ways. Reaching out to others opens pathways for experiencing God's action in new ways. Today as a congregation let us commit to travel together to unexpected places, to walk alongside unexpected people, and to witness to God's work in the world in unexpected ways.

On this day, we are commissioned by God to expect the unexpected. On this day, we, as a congregation, covenant to gratefully receive and actively engage with the expanded visions, the surprising experiences and the new ideas we each bring to the fold. We are expecting the unexpected.

Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Response

Two disciples walked the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They did not notice the length of the journey because they were talking and discussing the events of the

past days – seeing Jesus suffer and watching the community struggle.

On this journey, we promise attentiveness to the sacred space it gives to raise our awareness of the complexities of the world's suffering and struggles.

A stranger joins the journey, listens to the stories and gives them a new way to perceive their lives, the world and faith.

On this journey, we promise attentiveness to others we meet and to their different perceptions, view points, and experiences.

As the disciples offer hospitality to the stranger and they sit together for a meal, the stranger blesses the food and gives it back to them. In this act of blessed sharing – of receiving and giving – the

disciples recognize the risen Christ in their midst.

On this journey, we promise attentiveness to God in our midst – God who makes all things new.

Let the disciples proclaim –

The risen Christ is in our midst, making all things new!

Mission Trip Video

***Closing Song:** #2198 We Walk by Faith

Ushers may collect gifts, tithes, offerings, and any prayer requests for the week.

***The Lord's Prayer**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Prayer for Family and Friends

Praise

Thanks to Joe Gruber and J.R. Fulton for painting the trim on the church building. ~ *Aurelia and Vern Reed*

Updates and New Requests This Week

Don (John Cleveland's brother) is back in the hospital with kidney issues.

Jake Kohler (Larry's nephew) has cancer at age 35 with 6 to 12 months to live. Larry's sister Shirley and family also need prayer.

Cara Swinehart (Laverne's 35-year-old granddaughter) had a seizure last week.

Ken Tice (Betty Gruber's brother-in-law) is in ICU in Elkhart General Hospital with a throat problem.

Chuck and Vera Walker have been dealing with medical issues.

Previous Requests

Caryn Bladt and a Build On team are in Guatemala.

Prayers for the family of Yvonne Prosser Booth who passed away.

Diane (Vera Walker's sister) continues to struggle with breathing issues.

Carol Eaton

Isaac (Emily Hansson's cousin) is serving in the Air Force, and his assignment in Qatar has been extended indefinitely.

Paul Moberly (Susan Moberly-Hayes's dad) is recovering from open heart surgery. Prayers for healing.

Jason Phillips is recovering from major surgery due to cancer. Please pray for full healing and relief from side effects.

Iva Snyder (Vera Walker's sister-in-law and Char Rice's sister) has gone to her heavenly home.

Prayers for her family, and praise for this wonderful witness of 98 years.

Jan Walsworth is recovering from triple bypass open heart surgery. Prayers for healing.

Betty Witcher has a broken foot.

This Week's Celebrations

Birthdays

7/15 Matt Luegge
7/16 Beth Smith
7/18 Randy Stafford

7/16 Del & Myrna For-
sythe

7/19 Matt & Andrea
Luegge

Anniversaries

7/15 Tim & Fiona Dibble

7/20 Hank & Tamra
Stamm

For Cheer and Hello

David Bretz

Barb Griner

Pat McClelland

Beverly Nimmo

Robert & Carmen

Parsons

Marv & Kitty Starbuck

Mina Willett

July 7 Worship attendance: 99

In Service to Our Country

Matthew Kohler
Ryan Miller
Walker Polsinelli

Tyler Smith
Geoff White

Just a reminder

UMCOR needs your monetary support as it works for the victims of floods and tornados. Remember, UMCOR is in it for the long haul, long after others have left.

Coming deadlines

- ScripCents orders are due in the church office by 2:00 p.m. tomorrow.
- Items for the August newsletter are due in the church office by Monday, July 22.

Sundae



Sunday!

today after church

We are celebrating as a church family the baptism of Laverne Swinehart following today's church service by having "top your own Sundaes." Please plan to join us!

This Week's Calendar

Today

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
after church "Top Your Own Sundae"

Monday, July 15

no activities are scheduled

Tuesday, July 16

2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Room

Wednesday, July 17

10:30 a.m. Wednesday Winners, Taylor Room

Thursday, July 18

no activities are scheduled

Friday, July 19 - Pastor's Day Off

no activities are scheduled

Saturday, July 20

8:30 a.m. Loaves & Fishes in the FLC till 9:30a

Next Week

Monday, July 22

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee in the Library

7:00 p.m. Worship Committee in the Library

8:00 p.m. SPRC in the Library

Tuesday, July 23

1:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle at Aurelia Reed's house

We need summer welcomers and snacks

We need Welcome Center volunteers for July, August, and September. We also need snacks. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Concert at Klines Resort

The Sound will be appearing on Sunday, Aug. 4, at 6:30 p.m. at Klines Resort, 5 miles south of Vicksburg on Silver St. If you plan to attend, you will need to bring a lawn chair or blanket to this outdoor concert and a finger food to share afterward. A free-will offering will be taken.

Mission Moment—Plus 10 Families

July 14:

July 21: Marshall Linebaugh

Growlers baseball game

United Methodist Day at the Kalamazoo Growlers will be Sunday, July 28, 3:05 p.m. Tickets are \$9 and include a free hat. Visit GrowlersTickets.com and enter promo code: UMCTICKETS.

Today's altar flowers are provided by Del and Myrna Forsythe in honor of their 64th wedding anniversary.

Generous Hands Wish List



- 18 oz. peanut butter
- fruit cups
- applesauce cups
- granola bars
- Ramen noodles
- microwave popcorn
- small peanut packs
- instant oatmeal packets

VUMC's Mission Statement



The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Needed: more disciples!

“To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow His teachings, through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.” This is VUMC’s mission. It’s why we’re here. If you have a passion for the gospel (even if you’re willing to get a passion) and an earnest desire to see Christ change lives through this church, you are invited to join us on this journey, going forward to be and do what God wants us to be and do. New member orientation will be in September. Interested? Pray about this — and let’s talk. You can call Pastor Greg here at the church (269-649-2343) or e-mail (gpculver@mac.com). You can even approach him today!

Are you receiving our emails?

If you have an email account and are not currently receiving the Tuesday report or the monthly newsletter via email, please call Polly in the church office at 649-2343 and request to be included in the email list.

Weekly Donations

Needed each week

General Fund:

\$ 5,288.50

Building Fund:

\$ 1,140.66

Received Jul 3-9

General Fund:

\$ 4,936.14

Building Fund:

\$ 827.00