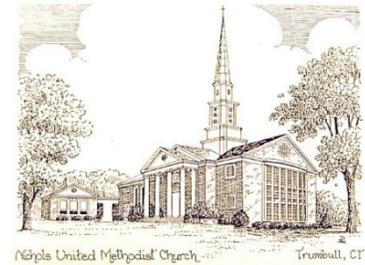


The Carillon

Nichols UMC

Volume Number 45, Issue Number 5

May 2022



What I Learned - by Pastor David Piscatelli

NRS Acts 1:12-14 Then they (the disciples) returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Over my lifetime I have had a multitude of learning opportunities. In addition to my time at college and seminary, I have attended seminars, training classes, conferences, mentor training, and symposiums. Those occasions taught me about accounting rules, pastoral care, Biblical studies, and more. Yet I have also learned much from my parents, my siblings, and my years growing up in the United Methodist Church. I discovered the importance of Sunday worship, listening, discipleship, tithing, Bible study, and serving the community in the name of Jesus Christ. I treat every experience as a chance to learn something new, for God to expand my understanding, and to grow as the person that God wants me to be. The more I learn the more I discover I have much more to learn! God is not done with me yet.

In the days after Jesus' resurrection, the disciples had to regroup and discover what they learned. They had to remember all that He had said and figure out what they would do next. Jesus told them to wait until the Holy Spirit came upon them, so they spent time together. They continued to reflect upon what Jesus taught them while devoting themselves to prayer and fellowship. They entered the post-Easter period by deliberately seeking God's guidance and remaining connected to the community of believers, while evaluating all that had happened during their time with Jesus. To expand upon this post-Easter time period, for the month of May I will be preaching a sermon series entitled: *Stories from the Early Church*.

Here is what I learned during Lent as I connected with the believers here at Nichols UMC and spent time reflecting on what God was teaching me during this season in my life. Our Lenten theme was *Seeing God at Work Today* which was accompanied by the Bible study *Putting Jesus First*. I learned that the church that I serve is full of people who constantly look for God at work in their lives and whose stories warmed my hearts and stretched my faith. I learned that the key to remaining connected to Jesus is by actively and purposefully making Him a priority in my life. Especially as a pastor, Jesus wants me to intentionally set aside time for prayer and devotions, trust that He is with me in both the good and the difficult times and remember that every area of my life can be used to serve Him. If I treat these occasions as just another day in the life of a pastor, I will not honor the call that Jesus has upon my life. Yet if I continue to put what I learned into practice, maybe, just maybe, I will continue to grow to be the person that God wants me to be.

As we as individuals and as a church enter the season after Easter, I pray we each continue to use this time to take note about what God is doing in our lives and in the world around us. May we be purposeful in prayer, staying connected to our Lord Jesus Christ, and participate in worship whether in person or online. The longer we remain here on earth, the more time God can help us grow in faith. God is not done with us yet! We might not know what is around the corner, but we can handle whatever comes if we know and trust God is with us. May each and every day be an opportunity for us to grow closer to God and may our connection with Jesus Christ become stronger day in and day out.

~Grace & peace, *Pastor David*

Stories from the Early Church



May Sermon Series

- May 1st - *New Life, New Role*, Acts 9:1-20
- May 8th - *Being Jesus' Hands & Feet*, Acts 9:36-43
- May 15th - *Changing Boundaries*, Acts 11:1-18
- May 22nd - *Gathering & Sharing*, Acts 16:9-15



9-9:45am Sunday Bible Study ~ In Person

This study is taught by David Preusch and focuses on the books of I & II Kings. This story begins with King Solomon and a unified powerful and influential Israel, which slowly unravels and culminates into a divided kingdom. It is relevant for us today as we live in such divisive times. This is an inclusive group study and no preparation is required, just

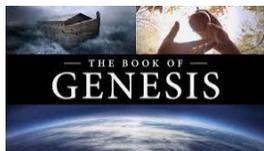
bring your Bible.



Peace & Prayer: Mid-Week Time of Devotion Zoom - Wednesdays 11:30-

11:45am - Judy Lang hosts a brief time of devotion and prayer via Zoom. This will be an opportunity to spend about 15 minutes centering ourselves in reflective thought and prayer. The link for this mid-week centering time can be accessed by clicking here:

[Peace & Prayer Midweek Time of Devotion](#) OR Dial in: (646)-876-9923, Meeting ID: 366 149 7977, Password: 35#.



Word & Coffee Beginning Thursday, May 5th 9-10:00am on Zoom

Pastor David will lead a study on the book Genesis. Come and learn how it all began as we discuss these first stories of God interacting with the created world. Each week we will open in prayer, read the passage, and discuss what we have learned/questioned during our reading and reflection. All are welcome, and you may drop in (via Zoom) any week. If you would like to attend, please email Pastor David pastordavidnumc@snet.net. NOTE: a recorded video version will also be available upon request for those who cannot attend the live session.



NUMW Paint & Snack Friday, May 20th - 6:30pm - 9:30pm

NUMC Fellowship Hall

More information to follow

Reservations needed, please contact Sue DelVecchio at delvecs523@gmail.com



Special Coffee Hours During May

Sunday, May 1st - Following the 10am worship service, there will be a special coffee hour to honor Ruth Schulenburg. Ruth died unexpectedly last year, and we were unable to have a service in our church to celebrate her life. Therefore, her family

will provide sandwiches and other goodies in Fellowship Hall and there will be an opportunity to share stories. We hope you can come and participate in this celebration.

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th - Attention Moms...join us in Fellowship Hall on, immediately following the 10am worship service for a special Coffee Hour Celebration.



Hello everyone! It is wonderful to see so many families back in church. There are signs of new life all around us and that is true of our Sunday School as well. Our Sunday school classroom is filled with friends reuniting, chatter, and excitement as to what is happening next. May brings us a 5-week series from The New Testament on The Early Church entitled "The Messengers". How many ways can you send a message? There are so many unique ways!

Special deliveries are the best! This month we are going to look at the most important message that was ever sent out and how we are meant to be the ones delivering it. Kids are God's messengers that can share the stories of God's miracles. All are invited to come and be a *messenger in the making*. God sometimes uses the most unlikely people as messengers including YOU and ME! Please check your emails for our May Sunday School Lesson outline. ~Blessings ~ Debbie Redin & Madison Mascola

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8



Dear NUMC,
 Thank you for all the Easter basket donations. I was able to put together 25 Easter baskets for Janus House. I want to thank everyone for the very generous donations. It was fun to put these baskets together and I'm so happy they will bring a smile to the youth at Janus House.
 Happy Easter!
 Matthew Greene



Baccalaureate Service

SAVE THE DATE:

Celebration & Baccalaureate Sunday, June 12th - 10am Worship Service

If you or someone you know is graduating from high school, college, tech school, or graduate school and would like to be recognized on Baccalaureate Sunday, please contact the church office by June 5th via e-mail (nicholsmethodist@snet.net). Please include: graduate's name, school and degree/accomplishments.



Recycle That Bicycle! - Have a bicycle you are not using anymore? Golden Hill UMC is looking for donations of bikes for their annual used bike giveaway on June 4th for families in need. Bikes should be in decent shape (a few minor repairs is ok). Deadline to donate is May 21st. Please contact Phyllis Grafton at 203-386-8973 with any questions and to arrange pickup.

NUMC Youth Group

Hello church family. I am so thankful for the time we get to spend together, and I am always grateful for the warmer weather and opportunities to spend with you all outdoors. April was a busy month. We went bowling, went for pizza, attended a hockey game, went hiking, and met for some fun and games indoors. The month of May will be full of fun as well.

On May 9th there is a wonderful opportunity for high school seniors at Norton Presbyterian Church. If you have enjoyed youth group throughout your high school years and want to stay connected to Jesus when you head off to college this is for you. This event will provide you with all the information and contacts you will need to help your faith survive college and prepare you to grow even more deeply in your relationship with God. InterVarsity staff and students will be there to answer questions and plug you in to your campus ministry. There will be games, snacks, discussions, and Q&A time. I think it is going to be great. I would love to grab dinner first and then head to the event. ALL high schoolers are welcome to come and see what it's all about.

Another highlight in May is an opportunity to go to a concert at Black Rock Church. On May 12th at 7:30pm, The Cory Asbury "Songs and Stories Tour 2022" is stopping in Fairfield. Many of you have heard his song Reckless Love among other songs as well. I am so excited to worship with him and I would love for you all to join me. If you would like to go, order your tickets online at platformtickets.com and just let me know so we can go as a group. This is a youth group event. If you would like to go but cannot order tickets for any reason, please let me know and I will gladly get them for you. I need to know ASAP so they don't sell out. Another event that I am so excited to attend is THE SEND. This is a global missions movement that is taking place at Arrowhead Stadium with 70,000 other believers. Check out the send.org for more details and join me. The event is free but is in Kansas City.

Even more exciting news! Habitat for Humanity is finally letting people work on sites. I love this mission and have some upcoming dates that are available for us to serve. Available dates are July 23rd and September 24th. If you are 16 or older, I would LOVE to serve with you. NUMC gives to Habitat and this allows us to serve with other folks and help build homes in Bridgeport. Thank you, Sandy Blanchard, for introducing me to this ministry. If anyone would like to serve with me, please let me know ASAP so we can get signed up.

Lastly, thank you for entrusting me to work alongside our amazing youth. I look forward to all the time I am privileged to spend with them. If you are feeling led to serve the youth, we are looking for someone to provide a meal on Sunday May 29th. The May calendar is as follows:

April 30th - Activity to be determined (ASP meets on May 1st)
May 8th - No Youth Group (Mother's Day)
May 9th - Intro to InterVarsity, meet at NUMC parking lot at 5pm
May 12th - Cory Asbury concert at 7:30pm
May 15th - No Youth Group (Chrissy in Kansas City)
May 22nd - Youth group 5-7pm
May 29th - Youth group 5-7pm

Chrissy Ferrante, Youth Director ~ 203.558.7848 ~ chrissy842001@comcast.net

Thank you

Thank you to all of our friends at Nichols for their thoughts and prayers as we traveled to West Virginia to attend my older brother's funeral and to visit our families. Also, thanks for the cards and messages that we have received. ~George & Phyllis Grafton



NUMC Body and Soul Yoga Tuesdays 7:30-8:45pm in Fellowship Hall

Beginner's Welcome!

Come and experience the wonder of yoga.

Meditate, stretch, and strengthen as Laurie leads you through this hour—leaving you rejuvenated, relaxed and stress-free.

\$12 drop-in fee. Last class is May 31st before we break for the summer.

Please contact for more information: Janel Foote 203-521-1714 or ctjanel@gmail.com, or Laurie Trupp, Instructor 203-209-9679 or laurietrupp@yahoo.com



This month's outreach is Project Learn, an after-school program at Summerfield United Methodist for elementary children to help them with their homework and provide a safe haven. This school year the program is 80 percent virtual and 20 percent in person. Students have all been given loaner laptops courtesy of Summerfield. Students connect with via Zoom and Teams. The program runs Monday-Friday (3-5pm). For those students who are in need of snacks, etc. they allow parents to pick up an assortment of weekly snacks each week so students can have during virtual breaks. Next fall the students will return to full time in person. Students from the local colleges provide tutoring and provide age-appropriate health promoting activities, such as cooking classes to reinforce proper diet and nutrition, and bullying prevention activities designed to raise awareness and to increase self-assurance and self-esteem. Youth With a Purpose is for older youth up to early 20's. The mission of this program is to break the cycles of poverty, lack of education, unemployment, teen parenthood/single parenthood, incarceration of young men and women, and crime in Bridgeport. Professionals from the community have helped to mentor over 100 at-risk kids in the community, helped place over 40 students in colleges and universities, and helped many of the other young people to obtain jobs. Please give generously to support these programs. To donate please make checks payable to NUMC with Project Learn in the memo. Thank you for your support.



Celebrating Pentecost - Sunday, June 5th

In celebration of the day please wear **RED**, signifying when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and the people of Jerusalem.



We are approaching summer and the long, warm sunny days. Everyone can make this a fun and active summer by participating in gardening, walking, running, and swimming. Please remember to incorporate a healthy exercise plan to improve your heart health and help lower stress. May is also Stroke Awareness Month. Here is a link to a great video from Stroke Busters with the AHA “BE FAST” stroke prevention campaign. [Be Fast Stroke Video](#)

MAY HEALTH TIP

Can You Spot the Signs and Symptoms of a Stroke?

A stroke can cause lasting brain damage, long-term disability, or even death. Knowing how to spot a stroke and respond quickly could potentially save a life—maybe even your own. Take the quiz and put your stroke knowledge to the test.

Which acronym can help you spot the signs and symptoms of a stroke?

- FAST
- ABCS
- SPOT
- None of these

Which of these symptoms should you look for in someone who may be having a stroke?

- Numbness in the face, arm, or leg
- Confusion, including trouble speaking or difficulty understanding speech
- Trouble seeing from one or both eyes
- Trouble walking or problems with dizziness
- Severe and sudden onset of headache
- All of these

To receive the best possible treatment, stroke needs to be diagnosed within ??? hours of the first symptoms.

- 2
- 3
- 5
- 8

What is the FIRST thing you should do in the event of a stroke?

- Drive yourself or the stroke victim to the emergency room
- See if the signs or symptoms subside, and then call 9-1-1
- Call 9-1-1 immediately and wait for EMS to arrive
- Take a nap

1. FAST 2. All of these. 3. 3 4. Call 9-1-1-immediately and wait for EMS to arrive.

“Give your worries to the Lord, and He will take care of you...” Psalm 55:22
God Bless You All! Your Parish Nurses



May 2 Brian Lambe
May 2 Debra A. Owen
May 3 Kelly Shay
May 4 Thomas Clark
May 4 Lynne Migliore
May 4 Christopher Raccuia
May 4 Katy Strohecker
May 5 Pam Campoli
May 5 Ryan T. Carew
May 5 Joy Tarbox
May 6 Robert Hansen
May 7 Carole Chameides
May 7 Mellik Gorton
May 7 Dan Quinn
May 7 Gavin Racette
May 8 Andrew Lefer
May 8 Katelyn McKenzie
May 8 Trisha McMahon
May 9 William Gerard
May 9 Karen Gorton
May 9 Holly Murcko
May 10 Sarah DiPinto
May 10 Jo Harper
May 10 Lauren Walsh
May 11 Jaxson Clark

May 11 Lillian Kyrytschenko
May 11 Heather Miller
May 12 Derek A. Bruner
May 12 Robert Ferrante
May 12 Rachael Heard
May 13 Polly Owen
May 14 Rex Anku
May 14 Olle E. Haggstrom
May 15 Matthew Balcerzak
May 15 Lee Overhiser
May 15 Gail Terrell
May 16 Chris Carew
May 16 Ellen E. Janik
May 16 Judy Lang
May 16 Greg Rakoczy
May 17 Michael W. Bart
May 17 Melissa Krebbs
May 17 William Rojas
May 18 Susan L. Baccaro
May 18 Dorothy M. Bietsch
May 18 Nancy M. Busch
May 18 Jeff Gorton
May 18 Chris Mustakas
May 19 Cayla Cantafio
May 20 Kelly O'Leary

May 20 Larry Rivera
May 20 David Schadlich
May 21 Wayne Saunders Jr.
May 22 Kyle Davidson
May 22 Brittany Monks
May 22 Lauren O'Leary
May 22 Bailey Wright
May 23 Susan DelVecchio
May 24 Daphne Main
May 25 Makenna Brady
May 26 Luke Shay
May 27 Cheryl Miko
May 27 Janice E. Moore
May 27 Elizabeth Raccuia
May 28 Greg DeSanty
May 28 Johnna Dineley
May 28 Alexa Rae Pfohl
May 28 Katelyn Rosselli
May 28 Amelia Strohecker
May 29 Jim McMahon
May 29 Sawyer Ponzeka
May 30 Sean Hansen
May 31 Juliet Stagnetta
May 31 Vicki Wilmot

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes...	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
24 Every Sunday 9 AM Bible Study 110 AM Worship w/nursery care and church school 11 AM Coffee Hour	25	26 MDO 2 - 9:30-1:30 Tue, - Fri MDO 3 9:15-1:45 Tue & Fri May 16-20 makeup days Kids n Spirit Tues & Fri starts 5/24	27	28	29	30																																																																																																		
1 9 AM Confirmation Class 1:30 PM CROP Walk 5 PM Sea Scouts 6:45 PM ASP Mtg 7 PM AA	2 6 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Staff Parish Relations Mtg - Zoom	3 9:30 AM Memoir Writing 5:30 PM AA 6:30 PM Bells 7:30-8:45 PM Body & Soul Yoga	4 9:45 AM UMW Ex. Bd. Mtg. 11:30 AM Peace & Prayer w/Judy - Zoom 7 PM Boy Scouts 8 PM AA	5 10 AM AA 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7-10 PM Footsteps	6 6 PM Cub Scouts	7																																																																																																		
8 Mother's Day' 9 AM Confirmation Class 7 PM AA	9 6 PM Cub Scouts 7 Council on Ministries Mtg - Zoom	10 5:30 PM AA 6:30 PM Bells 7:30-8:45 PM Body & Soul Yoga	11 11:30AM UMW Luncheon 11:30 AM Peace & Prayer w/Judy - Zoom 7 PM Trustees Mtg - Zoom 7 PM Boy Scouts 8 PM AA	12 9 AM Bible Study 10 AM AA 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7-10 PM Footsteps	13 7-9:30 PM Confirmation Spiritual Night Apart	14																																																																																																		
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22 9 AM Confirmation 5-7 PM Youth Group 7 PM AA	23 6 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Administrative Board Mtg - Zoom	24 7 AM Merton House Sandwiches 5:30 PM AA 6:30 PM Bells 7:30-8:45 PM Body & Soul Yoga	25 11:30 AM Peace & Prayer w/Judy - Zoom 7 PM Boy Scouts 8 PM AA	26 10 AM AA 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 7-10 PM Footsteps	27	28																																																																																																		
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Nichols United Methodist Church

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Holly Piscatelli, Editor

Submit articles through

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DEADLINE FOR THE June 2022 ISSUE IS May 12th



NUMW Wednesday, May 11th Luncheon

Nichols United Methodist Women cordially invites all women and men to our May 11th luncheon in Fellowship Hall for a celebration of both Mother's Day and Memorial Day through sheet music from the past. Louise MacCormack our UMW Co-President is in possession of some very old and valuable sheet music.

Each piece of music has its own very special story. Louise will talk about music written about "Mothers & Children", "Babies & Children" and "Soldiers & Mothers". In addition, Steve Bozek, an accomplished pianist, and member of our choir will share some of the music on piano. Our times are: 11:30am Fellowship, 12noon Meeting, 12:15pm Luncheon followed by our program. If you are not already on our calling list, you may make a reservation by calling June Hoyt (475-319-2656) or Jan Moore (203-375-4636). The cost is just \$6. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have a program idea for UMW, please contact Carol Steinberg at (203-929-6017). We are always looking for new ways to support our missions.

Executive Board Meeting: Wednesday May 4th, 9:45am in the lounge