



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study *August Edition*

Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship

Office Details

Hours: 8:00-1:00

(Emails answered throughout the day)

Aldersgate@ftc-i.net

(803) 775-1602

211 Alice Drive

Sumter, SC 29150

Staff

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Laura Whitt

(Ext. 101)

Office Manager:

Brooke Staniec

(Ext. 100)

Custodian: Shpendi Dani

Do you remember the old Master Card ads that listed a number of purchases (usually some fairly expensive ones). After showing all these costs, they listed the benefit and said, “Priceless”.

Cost/Benefit analysis is often a tedious task if you are calculating the potential dollar cost of a project. The hard part is that much of the benefit analysis isn’t as clear cut. The benefit may be “priceless”, but it isn’t something that can be quantified beforehand. Let me give you an example:

When we lived in Waynesville, I was the chairperson of a committee that was starting up long-term Bible studies. It was far easier to tell people what the study would cost them rather than what they would gain from the study. The costs could be counted in reading time, meeting time, and book cost. What couldn’t be calculated is the joy of fellowship, the peace, better understanding of the Scripture, and growth in how we live out our faith.

The benefits don’t have price tags that allow us to quantify the value of participating in a Disciple Bible Study. However, those of you have had Disciple probably can express that you got more out of it than it cost you. Some of you like me may have participated in Disciple I multiple times and gotten something different each time.

This fall, starting in September, I’m going to offer Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study, but it is the new Fast Track version. This version is broken into two books – one for the Old Testament and one for the New Testament. So, if you are counting cost... The meetings will be between 1 and 1½ hours long. The readings will require about 30 minutes a day. Books will cost \$17. I cannot tell you how much you will benefit from taking this class. My experience is that it is “priceless”. To sign up contact Brooke or click [here](#).

Most of our growth in faith and living out our faith comes with some sort of cost. In *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer made it clear that there was a high cost to what might need to be sacrificed to be a faithful disciple. He pointed out that Christ had paid with his life. The value God places on us living redeemed lives is Christ’s death on the cross.

Dallas Willard notes that nondiscipleship – not living as a growing and faithful disciple who walks with Jesus – has a price too.

“Nondiscipleship costs abiding peace, a life penetrated throughout by love, faith that sees everything in the light of God’s overriding governance for good, hopefulness that stands firm in the most discouraging of circumstances, power to do what is right and withstand the forces of evil. In short, it costs exactly that abundance of life Jesus said he came to bring (John 10:10) ... The correct perspective is to see following Christ not only as the necessity it is, but as the fulfillment of the highest human possibilities and as life on the highest plane.”

Each choice we make weighs the cost and benefit of following Christ and acting as part of the Body of Christ. May we choose well.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura



We're collecting school supplies, some of the items needed include: crayons, glue sticks, scissors, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and spray, bookbags, boxes of tissues, markers, notebooks, pencils, etc. Every bit helps and is so appreciated by the schools we connect with. You can drop off supplies in the hall across from office. (Supplies due by Thursday 8/11)



VBS will conclude on Thursday, August 4th with "Ready to Rumble" Food truck. We've certainly been "On a Roll with God" and we have our amazing Pastor and volunteers to thank for that. We've served roughly 30 children throughout and we can't thank all of our great members for coming out and supporting in many different ways. YOU make all of this possible!!!!



Our Annual Church Yard Sale will be Saturday, September 17th. We will begin "take ins" on **Thursday, September 1st for a total of two weeks.** (Fridays will be excluded from dropping off, you may drop off Monday-Thursday of these two weeks) We're going to need volunteer support to make this happen so please contact Brooke if you're able to help in any way. The UMM will also be hosting a CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT this day, come out for a day of fun and fellowship!!



Our second annual Pumpkin Palooza event will be held **Saturday, October 8th.** If you would like to volunteer (it takes an army) please let us know ASAP. We will host our 2nd planning meeting on **Thursday, August 18th at 6:30 PM.**

OUR PRAYERS:

- Lynn Boan
- Betty Hodges
- Betty Heacker
- Kathy Goldstein
- Mark Goldstein
- Gene Hunter
- Larry & Garland Nettles
- Allen Prescott
- Everett Burroughs
- Ed Hudson
- Cornell Thomas
- Dot Morgan
- Wilma Crayton
- Griffin/Smith Family
- Marvin Vannoy
- Rex Riddle
- Bobbi Land
- Bill Reither
- Charlie Bells
- Sam Crawford
- Pam Fleury
- All Homebound Members

Please let us know if we need to remove/add someone to this list.



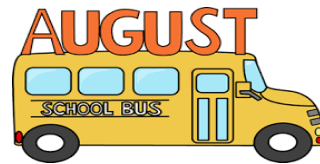
Wednesday, July 27th, the Space Sharing Team motioned that the Trustees move forward with the lease agreement (with guidance from our legal counsel) with Liberty Steam Charter School. Thursday, July 28th, the Trustees met with congregation members and Liberty board members where the Trustees then voted to move the motion up to Church Council. **Thursday, August 4th at 6:30 PM Church Council** will meet in the Fellowship Hall. This is an open meeting that all members are welcome to attend and listen in on. Liberty Steam will make a full presentation to Council at this meeting. Please continue to hold his process in your prayers, please ask that God continues to direct our path and reveal new opportunities for ministry.



AUGUST 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 7:00 AM UMM	4 9:30 AM VBS 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	5	6	
7	8	9 6:30 PM <i>Evangelism Meeting</i>	10 7:00 AM UMM	11 10:00 AM Knitters <i>All School Supplies for Drive to be in</i>	12	13
14	15	16 6:30 PM UMW <i>Board Meeting</i>	17 7:00 AM UMM 5:45 Congregational Meal and Movie	18 6:30 PM <i>Pumpkin Palooza Meeting</i>	19	20
21	22	23	24 7:00 AM UMM	25 10:00 AM Knitters	26	27
28	29	30	31 7:00 AM UMM			

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship



<u>Stewardship Report</u>
<u>Actual Received: Jan-June</u> \$226, 808
<u>Budgeted: Jan-June</u> \$275,000
<u>Deficit to Budget:</u> (\$48,192)

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS	
2 Sandra McLeod	16 Sandy Noonan
11 Sandi Davis	17 Geri Seiveno
11 Catherine Zybak	19 Terry Crawford
12 Betty Watry	28 Janet Ackerman
15 Jack Bowman	30 Marvin Andrews