

Call to Worship

Westbrook Park United Methodist Church

Dr. Joel L. Adkins, pastor

330-456-4797 office

10:15 am Sunday Parking Lot Praise & Pajamas

7:00 pm Wednesday Night Online Worship

Visit our website at www.westbrookparkumc.org

Issue 2021-1W

Our Vision: We are committed to being Christ for Canton and our surrounding community.

Our mission is to go to the community of Canton and make disciples by serving and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ

How we are worshipping...

Here is how you can join us for worship during this time when our building remains closed.

Sunday Morning @ 10:15 am

Parking Lot Praise & Pajamas with Music, Scripture, Message

(you provide the luxury seating for this event if you join us in person by remaining in your vehicle for worship)

Available:

From our Parking lot on AM Radio

Facebook Live on your phone or personal computer.

Live Stream Video at www.westbrookparkumc.org

Tuesday Bible Study Online & Wednesday Night Online Worship

Available to all by phone:

Call one of these numbers to join.

1-312-626-6799

1-929-205-6099

1-301-715-8592

When prompted enter the meeting ID# and then password

Available through your computer as well on Facebook or at www.zoom.com

Enter the meeting ID# Password: 2521 (if needed)

****** MEETING #'S******

Tuesday Bible Study Meeting # **891 8430 0457** Pswd #2521

Wednesday Night Worship # **896 8665 8061** Pswd #2521

If you have prayer requests please let us know by calling the church office or sending a message to Pastor Joel at westbrookpastor@gmail.com or the church office at office@westbrookparkumc.org.

Then join us on Tuesday Mornings @ 10:00 on Zoom as we join together to pray with and for one another.



Faith and Optimism

When your cup runs over, is it a blessing, or a mess? Is your glass half full or half empty? Do you make difficulties out of your opportunities, or opportunities out of your difficulties? Are you the kind that complains about the noise when opportunity knocks? Do you claim to be an optimist who doubts that being one really helps?

I was reading Psalm 23 this week, and it occurred to me that King David was a true optimist. "I am never in need...green pastures...peaceful waters...paths of righteousness...my cup overflows...even though I walk through the dark valley of death, because you are with me, I fear no harm...your rod and staff give me courage." His faith in God enabled him to overcome obstacles that would derail our faith. His faith in God allowed him to see winning possibilities in horrible circumstances. Remember how he faced a lion, a bear, a giant, and a mentally unstable king? Remember how he faced the death of a child, and rebellion within his own family? His faith empowered him to live with optimism and assurance of victory.

When faced with setbacks and difficulties, our reactions reveal whether we are people of faith and optimism, or people of pessimism and defeat. There are three basic differences in the way optimists and pessimists react.

The first is that the optimist sees a setback as temporary, while the pessimist sees it as permanent. When David's infant child died, he saw it only as a temporary separation. Even after praying and fasting that the child would not die, his faith in God never wavered. He could not bring the child back, but he said, "I will go to him" (2 Sam. 12:23). Even death is not permanent for those with faith in God.

The second difference is that the optimist sees difficulties as specific, while the pessimist sees them as pervasive. David's sin with Bathsheba was not allowed to destroy his whole life and eternity. He messed up big time, but he dealt with it as the specific sin it was, repented, and went on to live as a man with the heart of God. His failure with Bathsheba did not cause his whole life to be a failure.

The third difference is that optimists view events as external, while pessimists interpret events as personal. King Saul's repeated attempts to kill David was seen by David as rebellion against God, not him personally. He would not raise his hand against Saul because he still saw him as the Lord's anointed. Difficulties are most often simply external circumstances, not personal attacks.

Learn from David to live by faith and optimism. Look upon the inevitable setbacks that you face as being temporary, specific, and external.





**Food Pantry
We are being
Christ for Canton**

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

We served 79 families and 300 people

How time flies – we have completed another year of serving our community. God has blessed this program in so many ways and it is a blessing to be part of this outreach. Thank you for your continued support!

We continue to take special precautions to be safe for the clients and ourselves. Clients are registered under the overhang and then pull to the Clarendon Avenue entrance for the food to be placed in their trunks.

Each household received: bag of groceries, potatoes, orange juice, candy, breakfast bars, cooking oil, pop tarts, peanuts, cheese, milk, eggs, and 10 lbs. of chicken.

We are blessed with excellent volunteers: Thank you May God bless you: Lisha Watson, Bob and Betsy Spaulding, Dennis and Travis Pellegrino, Adam Little and a helper.

NEW VOLUNTEERS: Randy, Bonnie and Kara Rhodebeck.
Many hands make lite work!

Items that are in need: **shampoo, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, dish soap and laundry detergent.** These are items families need and cannot be purchased with their food assistance money.

Our next food pantry will be **January 19th.**

One at a Time

The story is told of a business man who was overworked and decided to take some time off. While vacationing on the coast, a terrible storm hit. When it died down, he decided to take a walk down the coast to see what damage had been done. As he walked along the shore, he noticed thousands of starfish which had washed upon the shore. He knew that in a few hours the sun would come out and the starfish would dry out and die. As he thought about the starfish, he noticed a young boy who was throwing the starfish back one by one. The man was amazed by the youth's diligence and shocked by his feeble attempts to make a difference. As he looked up the long beach, he saw thousands of starfish. When he caught up with the young man, he informed the boy that he could not possible save them all and said to the little boy, "You'll never be able to make a difference to the starfish population." The boy bent down, picked up a starfish, looked at it, then threw it back into the safety of the ocean. Then he said, "I sure made a difference to that one."

We cannot personally make a difference in the lives of everyone that fills this world, but we can make a difference to a few of them. It is interesting that when Jesus spoke of those on His right hand on the Day of Judgment, he described them as having made a difference in the life of one person. He said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt. 25:40). I sincerely believe that each of us can make a difference in the life of someone. This is how Jesus worked—one at a time. Sure, He preached to thousands, but He visited with families, and helped individuals.





Children bring us such joy. And at Christmas we celebrate the Joy of a baby born to save the world. December brought many fun activities from decorating cookies and making Christmas decorations and a pajama day and movie to finish up. Our numbers continue to grow and we covet your prayers for the children we will reach in the new

January Birthdays...

Venetia Myers	
Dr. William French	
Thomas Tryon	01/03
Ginger Dougan	01/08
Darlene Reese	01/09
Burnetta Markley	01/14
Janice McCarthy	01/18
Janice Adkins	01/19
Shelley Doerschuk	01/21



Giving Envelopes 2021

You should have received your envelopes in the mail for January – June. If you did not receive envelopes and would like some please call the church office.

Christmas Giving Tree

God is at work at Westbrook:

This year we set out to help one family for Christmas, and we did. The following items were purchased for the children:

- Coats – hats – gloves
- 2 outfits
- Pajamas
- Underwear – socks
- 2 toys for each child
- Coloring books and other play items

Each family member received a throw blanket

Cleaning supplies – laundry detergent – dish soap – disinfectant – bleach - bleach wipes – paper towels were also supplied.

We received \$738.00 and that was going to be given to the family to purchase shoes, boots and groceries.

As final preparations were being made another family was brought to our attention. A family of 4, a single mom with 3 small children.

It was decided that we would take \$238.00 from the money received to give some help to the 2nd family. That seemed like an odd amount so a donation of \$62.00 was made to bring the total to \$300.00. As preparations were being made an unexpected phone call was received and another \$50.00 was added. Upon returning to the church Mindy explained she had received a phone call from someone, that wanted to remain anonymous, they would bring money the following Sunday. There was \$150.00 of community ministry money available so it was added to the amount to bring it to a total of \$500.00. This all took place within 30 minutes.

Church, you know that wasn't us, it was God using us. Thank you for being open to help our community and in doing so we have been **blessed by God.**

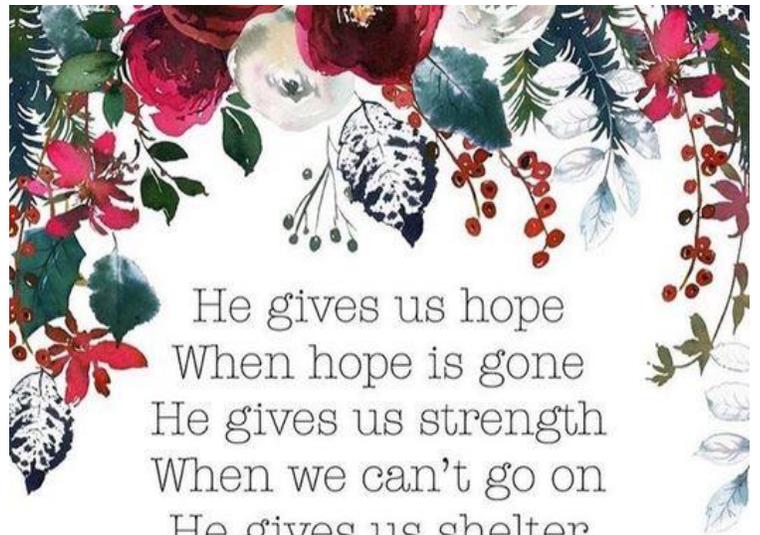


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 10:15 Parking Lot Worship	28	29 10:00 Bible Study	30 7:00 Wednesday Night Online Worship	31	1 Happy New Year	2
3 10:15 Parking Lot Worship	4	5 10:00 Bible Study	6 7:00 Wednesday Night Online Worship	7	8	9
10 10:15 Parking Lot Worship	11	12 10:00 Bible Study	13 7:00 Wednesday Night Online Worship	14	15	16
17 10:15 Parking Lot Worship	18 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	19 10:00 Bible Study 6:00 Food Pantry	20 7:00 Wednesday Night Online Worship	21	22	23
24 10:15 Parking Lot Worship	25	26 10:00 Bible Study	27 7:00 Wednesday Night Online Worship	28	29	30
31 10:15 Parking Lot Worship						

Office Hours are 8:30-1; 2:00-4:00



Office Hours
*Our building is still closed
 But staff is in the building
 Monday-Friday
 8:30-4:00*
*Please call the church office should you need
 anything. Leave a message if we are not
 available and we will return your call.*



He gives us hope
 When hope is gone
 He gives us strength
 When we can't go on
 He gives us shelter
 In the storms of life
 When there's no peace on earth
There is peace in Christ