

Pastors Note

After an amazing weekend with my granddaughter Isabella Lynn (and her parents Maddy and William), I am reminded of the wonderment of new life and the blessings of aging with one's best friend. On November 4, 2023, Kim and I celebrated our 36th wedding anniversary. Despite the eye and heart health problems since July 4, 2022, I am so thankful for my life partner and her dedication to God and our family, including her father, our children, and me. We are blessed and thankful despite the challenges of a new appointment, a new job, leaving a beloved community and discovering a new one, and building new memories and relationships. We are looking forward to Thanksgiving and gathering as a church family celebrating God's gifts and blessings of a growing family of new friends and family. It is a time of giving and being a helping hand to those in need yet being vigilant for scammers and those who would take advantage of our Christian good will.

Also, we (my fellow students and me) are approaching the end of another semester, so I invite you to pray for us as we complete the final weeks of a continuing journey in education. This semester I will have completed 15 of 30 credits towards a Doctor of Ministry degree. And I want to congratulate those who will soon complete their degrees and graduate. Moreover, I am advancing towards ordination as a United Methodist elder in full connection. And I want to thank everyone for their continuing support of my pastoral ministry, ordination, and continuing education. "[We] appeal to you, brothers, and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, brothers, and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient... See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another... Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-18).

There is so much to be thankful for that God has given us. Yet we choose to ignore God's blessings and ignore them as if we deserve them and God owes us. However, we need to appreciate God in the good times, so we can appreciate Him in the troubled times because with God all things are possible. Because God knows what is in our hearts, we must be careful and recognize God's love for us and his desire for us to be happy and healthy. As we approach Thanksgiving, I am thankful that the Lord is "[beside] us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so, from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be Thine!" (We Gather Together, UMH #131, v. 2) because our God is an awesome God!

Peace and grace!

Bro. Tom Mullins

Calendar for the Week

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Exercise

a.m. Food Truck

5:00 p.m. BreakThrough Youth

Friday

8:00 a.m. Food Pantry

9:00 a.m. Exercise

Sunday

8:45 a.m. Lexa Worship

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Marvell Sunday School

9:40 a.m. Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Marvell Worship

1:30 p.m. Charge Conference

Monday

9:00 a.m. Exercise

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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|---------------------|-----------|
| 2023 Budget | \$205,705 |
| Needed each week | 3,956 |
| Received this week | 1,180 |
| Capital Improvement | 125 |
| Newsletter | 20 |

ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Breakthrough Youth | 13 |
| Lexa Worship | 6 |
| Marvell Sunday School | 24 |
| Marvell Worship | 43 + 100 |

HONORARIUM

BARBIE WASHBURN & CHILDREN'S TIME KIDS

Edwynne Story

25th Sunday after Pentecost

A Day of Reckoning

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Hymns 131, 694

Lexa Hymns 374, 381, 467