

The Inman Informer



The Newsletter of Inman United Methodist Church
Fayetteville, GA 30215 June 2020

“Of Whom Shall I Be Afraid?” (Psalm 27:1)

The Psalms is referred to as the Jewish prayer book. It seems fitting that this book lies near the center of the Holy Scriptures. The Psalms had become in many ways our prayer as Christians as well.

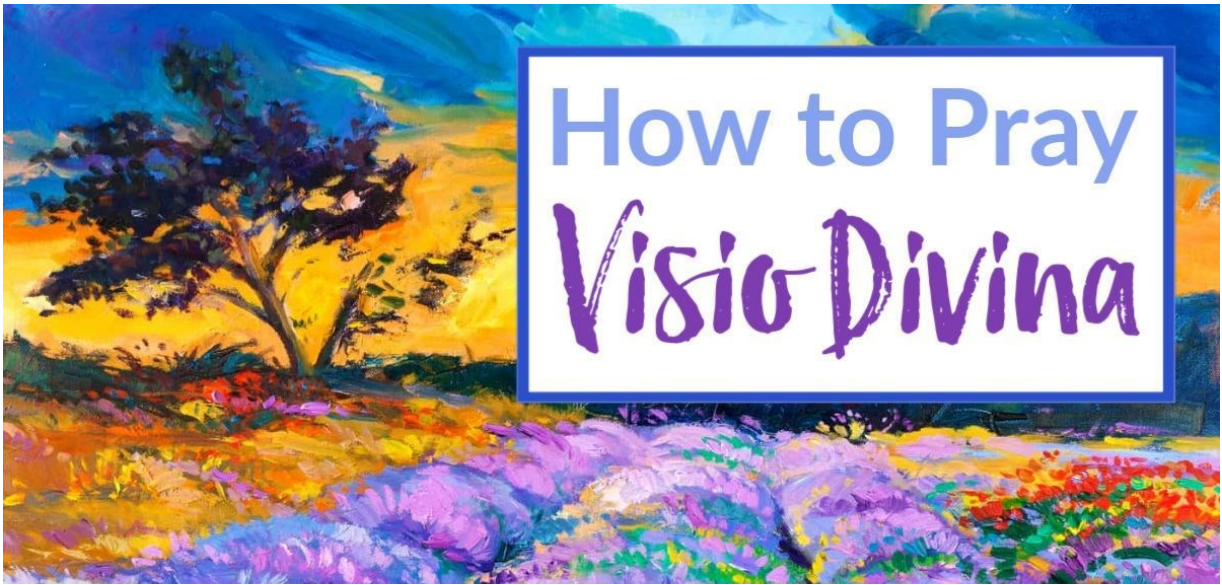
What I have come to appreciate about the Psalms is the honesty of the writers. They are not at all hesitant to share the whole array of human emotions from anger, to grief, to joy, to complaint and lament. Some Christians hold the mistaken notion that faith is to never express any doubts or complaints to the Lord, because the Lord knows what is best. In this view, someone who questions the Lord is showing their lack of faith. The Psalmists apparently did not buy into this kind of thinking. They would write laments such as, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” These are the exact words that Jesus had quoted while he was being crucified upon the cross.

What I have found to be true in the Psalms is that even though a particular Psalm may begin with a lament or complaint against the Lord, as you move towards the end of the Psalm the writer’s lament would give rise to words of praise and thanksgiving for all that God has done in the past. Psalm 22 which begins with the plea of why have you abandoned me ends with the Psalmist vowing to tell the congregation of all the good things that God has done in the past. When you take a deep look at the Psalms you will find a message of great hope and joy. We find this in the verse above, “The Lord is my light and my salvation –whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life– of whom shall I be afraid?” This is not to say that we will never have to deal with any fears in our lives. I believe most people who have to speak in public do so with some anxiety. We don’t have to pretend that the fear is not present. At the same time, we need not allow the fear to paralyze or freeze us in place. We need not fear not because we are such positive thinkers but because the Lord is our light and our salvation and because the Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

A very good suggestion that has been time tested through the centuries, it is helpful to take a verse or two like Psalm 27:1-2 and just sit with it and meditate over it. The Psalm’s message soon begins to penetrate our heart and provides us a sea of calm in the midst of life’s changes. As I write this, we are in the midst of odd and uncertain times. These verses above and others can truly help to serve as an anchor when everything else seems to be floating away.

Blessings,

Pastor Tommy



Visio divina invites the viewer into “divine seeing”. Visio divina shares roots with the ancient practice of lectio divina. (Lectio divina calls for a slow, careful interaction with scripture through meditation and prayer, allowing a word or phrase to rise in one’s consciousness, a holy word to be savored and examined.) Similarly, visio divina invites one to encounter the divine through images. A prayerful consideration of and interaction with a photograph in the magazine, icon, piece of art, or other visual representation allows the viewer to experience the divine in a unique and powerful way.

Visio divina can be practiced individually or with a group in a small group or worship setting by using a piece of art as a focal point for prayer. Scripture can also be paired with the image in order for the viewer to reflect on the scripture through the art.

Try Visio Divina

1. Pick out an image from a website, a photograph, painting, or icon.
2. Look at the image and let your eyes stay with the very first thing that you see. Keep your attention on that one part of the image that first catches your eye. Try to keep your eyes from wandering to other parts of the picture. Breathe deeply and let yourself gaze at that part of the image for a minute or so.
3. Now, let your eyes gaze at the whole image. Take your time and look at every part of the photograph. See it all. Reflect on the image for a minute or so.
4. Consider the following questions:
 - o What emotions does this image evoke in you?
 - o What does the image stir up in you, bring forth in you?
 - o Does this image lead you into an attitude of prayer? If so, let these prayers take form in you. Write them down if you desire.
5. Now, offer your prayers to God in a final time of silence.



We Need Your Opinions!

As we look towards the future and resuming in-person worship services, we need your feedback on how we can come back and gather together safely. Please check your email and your mailbox for a short, 6 question survey that we can use as we map out a path forward. We want and need your thoughts, suggestions and any questions you have. You can complete the survey online or complete the paper copy and mail it to or drop it by the church.



Trustees

Thanks to all that have volunteered for grass cutting and other projects around our church. We still have many small maintenance projects that can be handled by individuals safely. If you have extra time and are physically able, please contact Ed Roehm 770-855-5273 or e-mail edroehm@gmail.com.

Finance Committee



**Thanks
for Your
Support!**

Thank you for your continued generosity to Inman UMC during this difficult time. Below is the Finance Report for April of 2020. At the present time, we have eliminated all but basic, necessary expenses for items such as staff payroll and related expenses, utilities and similar operational expenses, basic administrative expenses and church apportionments.

As a reminder we have 3 ways you can continue to bless the church with your offering:

Online - Go to our website at www.inmanmethodist.org. We have added a new link on our homepage that says, "CLICK HERE if you would like to submit your offering online."

Mail - You can mail your offering directly to the church.

(Please DO NOT send cash through the mail.)

Bring It To The Church - A secure mailbox that we are checking on a regular basis has been installed next to the office door. Simply stop by and leave your offering there.

We are thankful to everyone for all of their support and generosity during this time. We will be keeping you updated on our financial status through the weekly online service bulletin. Please don't hesitate to contact Linda Wagner at 770-861-0109 or Linda Price at 404-375-7205 if you have any questions. Thank you!

Financial Report for April 2020

Income	April	Year to Date
Gifts & Tithes	\$ 18,916	\$ 73,061
ASP	\$ -	\$ 542
Other Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ 6,143
Grand Total Income	\$ 18,916	\$ 79,746
Expenses	April	Year to Date
ASP	\$ -	\$ 6,182
Committee Expenditures	\$ 13	\$ 172
Operational Expenses	\$ 2,298	\$ 14,494
All Other Expenses	\$ 10,308	\$ 48,829
Grand Total Expenses	\$ 12,619	\$ 69,677

Our Prayers

For healing from health concerns

Jayne Akeman
Carlos Allen (Gloria Reid's brother)
Angus Anderson
Sara Ballard
Roger Barnhill
Michael Barb
Ray Barday (Charles Cox)
Liz Beardon (Judy Becco's sister)
Gene Benton (Sandy Mathis)
Glenda Berman (Dixie Berner)
Jack Brannon (Jeff Wedge)
Henry Cawthorn
Darleen Cornelison
Kay Cox
Lane Cox (Lyn Wheeler)
Karen Glessner (Kay Cox)
Brenda Harp
Nicole Henry
John Kozisek
Zena Locke (Jeff Wedge)
Tammy Mardies (Mary Jane Fortner)
Tommy Mask
Karen Millman
Joanne Minter
Sara Jane Overstreet
Eugene Pritchard
Gloria Reid
Miriam Schmidt
Scott Smith (Melanie Wagner)
Ruth Sitton
Jane St. Amour
Claire Starkey
Roger Starkey
Katy Swanger
Marvin Tidwell
Lee Wagner (Brad Wagner's father)
Luz Webster (Gloria Reid)
Jeff Wedge
Rhonda Wheeler (George & Lynn Wheeler)
Kathey Young

For healing from cancer

Ben Akeman
Roger Allgood
Tim Barnes
Gail Bloomer
David Booth (Martha Kozisek)
Brandon Brown (Claire Starkey)
John Bullard
Tim Casteel (Dena Anderson)
Billy Bob Cheek (Donna Stilwell)
Jackie Clayburn
Nancy Cox (Cox's sister-in-law)
Walter Delia (Martha Kozisek)
Dan Dudley (Pat Pratt)
Mary Lee Giddings
Bill Haleday
Sig Hall (Ed Roehm)
Katie Hart (Arthur & Terrie Hart)
Leigh Hawkins
Daniel Houghton (Martha Kozisek)
JL Houze (Charles Cox)
Burl Hurley
Jean Jones (Nancy Allgood)
Luke Key (Mary Jane Fortner)
Matt Kirkindall
Carol Kline (Linda Chaffin)
David Lowe (Martha Kozisek)
Agnes McChargue
Kay Robertson (Karen Millman)
Katie Schmidt (Brenda Schachle)
Joey Shelton (Deborah Morris)
Bobby Smith (Tammy Cox)
Ann Talant (Caroline Akeman)
Brent Taylor (Jim & Karen Blue)
Earl Terry (Charles Cox)
George Wheeler
Bobby Williams (Rick Minter)
Louise Woods (Ann Hembree)
Kay Young (Forrest & Sara Ballard)

For Those Mourning the Death of These Loved Ones

Paula Hicks

The Informer is a publication of
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Father's Day

In the past, the UMW have had you submit for Father's Day the names of your loved ones remembered and honored to be posted in the bulletin. This year, due to being able to only live stream our worship, we are asking for participation from you in the Congregational Connection segment of the online service on Father's Day to honor or remember those special dads in your life. Please submit a photo of your dad, and let us know their favorite sport or sports team or Bible verse that we can display along with their name during the service. **We need your submissions by Wednesday, June 17th.** Your photos, etc. can be sent to sound@inmanmethodist.org or membership-care@inmanmethodist.org or you can contact Joni Janssen or Brad Wagner with the name of your loved one you would like included in the service. There is no charge to have your loved one recognized during the service. During the online Sunday service on Father's Day all submitted names and photos will be shown during the live stream to remember and honor your loved ones.



Inman Staff

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Paul Ballard	06/04
David Ballard	06/05
Lyn Wheeler	06/11
Melanie Wagner	06/12
Leon Mathis	06/12
Dorsey "DJ" Mathis	06/14
Ira Bishop	06/16
Sam Jones	06/17
Scott Ballard	06/23
Patsy Elliott	06/24
Ruth Sitton	06/24
June Dudrow	06/25
Courtney Wagner	06/25

If you see that a birthday is missing, please notify the church office so that we can make the correction in our records.