

Morris

MEMORIAL

OCTOBER 2022

Things of Beauty

Fall is upon us. It's the time of year where the magnificent trees of green become a beautiful tapestry of multiple colors which causes us to admire the beauty of God's creation of the trees. It's a time of unexplained excitement, perhaps as a sense of urgency, as the temperature changes to cooler and the nights become longer. A time when animals begin to store their winter supplies, because they know winter is just around the bend. Summer has come and gone, and the next season is here; another season that brings in itself, another time of beauty and admiration. Life itself has its season. We are born, grow up, and then grow old. In the end we pass from this life to our eternal resting place; a place where all things are beautiful and there is no season. There is a flowing peaceful river, as well as a tree that has abundant food for all, and a street made of translucent gold. As well, the walls and gates are made of precious stones. What a remarkable place it will be!

The new heaven and new earth will be place of great beauty for all who are there, but I don't think it will be because of precious stones and metals, or the stream and tree. No, I believe that its true beauty will come from the presence of The Great Creator, in the form of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God's radiance will surpass all of our expectations and will be far greater than anything we have ever witnessed or view ever before. My, oh my, what a remarkable place it will be!

The world and everything in it was created by God. It is your choice whether or not you see the beauty in the world. During the creation after each day when God had finished for the day, he looked at what he had done a said "it is good!" As well, when God created humanity in his image he said "it is good."

Regardless of our self-perceived imperfections and short comings, God sees us as great things of beauty more valuable than the rarest of stones or metals. He loves us as his beautiful children through every season of change that we might go through. His love for us is never-ending and meant for all. What a remarkable love it is! What a remarkable God our Creator is! Take time to see the beauty in each season of life. Take time to see the beauty in all of creation. Take time to see the beauty of God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| Mondays: | 10:00 a.m. | Nurture in Action |
| Wednesdays: | 10:00 a.m. | MEC Chapel |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Bible Study |
| Sundays: | 9:00 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Youth |

- October 3 – Knit Wits, 1:30 p.m.
- October 4 – Church Council, 6:30 p.m.
- October 10 – MEC Board, 6:30 p.m.
- October 11 – Finance 6:30 p.m.
- October 16 – Charge Conference at St. Marks 2:00 p.m.
- October 17 – Visioning Team 7:00 p.m.
- October 24– Worship Team 1:30 p.m.

Financial Update

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| Needed monthly to meet our 2022 budget: | \$ 33,681 |
| Received Year to Date (January 1- September 30): | \$ 263,226.04 |
| Expenses Year to Dates (January 1-September 30): | \$ 266,961.72 |

Thank you for your dedicated tithes and offerings to Morris Memorial.
Your gifts are deeply appreciated.

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays:

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|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Rick White | October 5 | Ed Eskew | October 17 |
| Dan Short | October 6 | Maxine Bowen | October 18 |
| Debbie LaDoucer | October 8 | Walter Myers | October 18 |
| Bruce Reed | October 9 | Jim Caudill | October 21 |
| Mary Wilton | October 10 | Bill Collins | October 24 |
| Heather Sneed | October 11 | Monica Hatfield | October 26 |
| Amanda Eads | October 16 | | |

Anniversaries:

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|---------------------|------------|
| Ann & Jim Kautz | October 8 |
| Donna & Robert Legg | October 19 |

Please join us on Sunday, October 23rd as we celebrate Undies Sunday. We will begin collecting new underwear and socks for adults and children on Sunday, October 16th. Please bring your donations to the church and look for the designated tubs. All donations will be sent to Heart + Hand in South Charleston. Thank you!



Common Grounds News and Needs

As we wrote our last column we were eagerly looking forward to the Morris' Nurture 'N' Action Team's community food drive for the benefit of our families at Common Grounds. It was held in our church's front parking lot on Saturday, Sept. 24 and it was a huge success! Donations of many kinds were welcomed. We are thrilled to report that we received 1191 items! We also received monetary donations of \$442.00! If you were one of the donors we thank you for whatever you donated whether it be food or money. Whether you were able to donate tangibly or not, we do ask for you to help us by praying for Common Grounds and our families. Truly, we cherish your prayers. Thank you, thank you for caring about and sharing with our families. You did a super job!!!

We are well into signing up our families for our Thanksgiving boxes of food. Each box is filled with "the makings" for a complete Thanksgiving meal and is tailored to the size of the family. Those will be handed out the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. What joy it is to know that our families will have the opportunity to celebrate a Thanksgiving meal this year along with other grateful and thankful Americans!

We are always making toiletries bags for the homeless we serve. Each bag contains a toothbrush, a small toothpaste, a washcloth, a small shampoo, a small conditioner, a small bar of soap and a small body lotion. These are made possible, in part, by those of you who donate travel-sized items as above. The travel-sized toiletries you get when staying at a hotel/motel overnight are just perfect for these bags. Please consider donating them to us for our homeless toiletry bags...and thank you to you and to those who already do.

If you would like to help us this month with food, please consider helping with our Thanksgiving food collection here at church for our Thanksgiving boxes at Common Grounds. As you know we are grateful for whatever food you donate. Please place them in the woven trunk in the Narthex or as directed by those sponsoring the collection of the Thanksgiving foods . If you would like to give a donation by check, please make the check out to Morris Memorial Methodist Church and in the bottom left-hand corner write Common Grounds. Thanks for sharing in whatever way(s) you choose! May God bless you beyond measure!

If you are interested in learning more about Common Grounds, have comments to share, or would like to volunteer with us, please contact Susan Vieweg, our Morris Memorial Common Grounds Coordinator, at (304) 344-2617 or (304) 549-6155. Thank you so much.