

SERMON NOTES

“Choose Wisely”

diaskorpizo = squander; the same word used to describe what the prodigal son did with his inheritance

Why does the master praise the manager? Why does Jesus praise the manager's example?

The master praises his manager not because of the deed he's done - in fact, he's cheated the master out of quite a lot of money - but because of the wisdom of his actions. The master is excited that his manager, who was fired for squandering money, is finally showing shrewdness with money.

In the same way, Jesus is not praising dishonest business practices but making wise decisions with money. His response exaggerates upon the parable. He wants us to be wise in our handling of this dangerous creature of money (Mammon).

Why “Choose Wisely”?

In our lives, we are all entrusted with the responsibility to be wise with money. God has given each of us this resource to varying degrees. But money is also a dangerous creature. It is constantly trying to lure us away from God, tempting us to worship and depend on it, to make it our master instead of God. In Jesus' day, they referred to money that takes on this form as Mammon – a god-like creature that desires our worship. As Christians, we must be wise with our responsibility for money, using it to further God's kingdom but refusing to let it take the place of God in our lives.

Question to Consider...

Would it be relatively easy for you to spend thousands of dollars on a country club, or a hobby, or an awesome vacation, but if someone came to you asking for that same amount, saying it could feed an entire village for a year, you'd look at them like they were crazy!?

Remember...

"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and wealth (Mammon).

NEXT STEPS:

This week, look through your checkbook and receipts and see how much of your money is going to things for you, and how much is being used for God.

Beginning Sunday,
September 12
Fresh Start Service
will start
at 8:30 AM



A Community in Christ

Chester United Methodist Church

Our Mission: Rooted in God, Growing in Christ, Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Virginia 23831 * Church: (804) 748-6006 Fax: 748-0859



FRESH START SERVICE

August 15 - 8:45 AM



Please sign the attendance register on the clip board, sign up for activities in which you would like to participate, and pass it to your neighbor.

WORSHIP MUSIC

Let the Praises Ring
Cover the Earth
Majestic
Blessed Be Your Name
Life of Praise

SPECIAL MUSIC

Your God Will Come
Cathy Epps, Holly Scarborough, Audrey Smith

SERMON

“Choose Wisely”
Rev. Brandon Robbins

SCRIPTURE

Luke 16:1-13

August 15, 2010

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
11:00 AM

12th Sunday
after Pentecost

Please sign the red attendance register, sign up for activities in which you would like to participate and pass it to your neighbor.

ENTRANCE

Chimes

Prelude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Organist

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing to the Lord! Sing with shouts of praise!

Congregation: For the Lord our God is worthy, and worthy to be praised!

* Opening Hymn No. 369

Blessed Assurance

* Opening Prayer

O God, this is our story, a tale of the blessed assurance you have given us through our Savior Jesus. May we forever be grateful for such grace, and may we always devote our lives to the One who gives it. Amen.

* Welcome and Greeting

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Children's Message

Rev. Rita

Prayer for Illumination

God of grace and God of life, open our hearts and minds this morning to receive your Word. Help us to hear the truth you might speak to us that, through the power of your Spirit, we might submit our entire lives to you. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 16:1-13

Sermon

“Choose Wisely”

Rev. Robbins

Offering

Offertory

Your God Will Come

Trio

Cathy Epps, Holly Scarborough, Audrey Smith

* Doxology No. 95

THANKSGIVING

Community Announcements

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer No. 895

SENDING FORTH

- * Closing Hymn No. 530 *Are Ye Able*
 - * Benediction
 - * Choral Response
-

- * Those who can will please stand. **Bold print – unison response**

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God in honor of the August 7th marriage of Luke Petrey and Rebecca Gill.

Leading Our Worship **TODAY (August 15)**

Acolytes: 11:00 Kathleen and Meghan Herrmann

Greeters: 8:45 Mindy Kelley, Terry Dombrowski, Ivey Gilliam

11:00 Barbara Yandle, Helen Jones, Hazel Miller, Ron Miller,
Gerald Stewart **6:00** Karen Comer

Ushers: 8:45 Bruce Koch, Donna Koch, Bruce Costner

11:00 Mike Anderson, Emory Large, Hunter Beazley, Blanche Castelow, Gordon Morris
6:00 Gordon Morris

Nursery: 8:45 Melissa Logsdon, Marci Logsdon, Lisa Zoller, Jenna Davis

9:45 Susan DePhillip

11:00 JoLynn Topping, William Topping

Welcome Center: 9:45 Judy McGee **11:00** Cindy Yuconis

CALENDAR August 15-22, 2010

Today: 8:30AM Light Breakfast
 8:45 AM Fresh Start Service
 9:45 AM Connections
 9:45 AM Financial Peace U.
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
 4:00 PM Spiritual Growth
 6:00 PM CrossRoads Service & ice cream

 Mon. – Thurs. Evenings: Boy & Girl Scouts
 Monday: 7:00 PM Admin. Council
 Tuesday: 10:00 AM Prayer Group
 6:30 PM Financial Peace Univ
 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry
 Wednesday: **9:00 AM CHIMES Deadline**
9:00 AM Bulletin Deadline
 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry
 7:00 PM UMW Exec Com
 7:00 PM HS UMFY Bible Study
 Thursday: 12:30 PM Empowerment Mtg.
 6:00 PM People First

 Friday:
 Saturday: 7:30 AM Men’s Prayer B’ fast

Next Sunday: 8:30 AM Light Breakfast
 8:45 AM Fresh Start Service
 9:45 AM Sunday Sch/Sm Grps
 9:45 AM Connections
 11:00 AM Traditional Service
 12:00 PM UMM Exec Board
 6:00 PM CrossRoads Service

Music Schedule:

Tuesday: 6:30 PM CrossRoads Band
 7:30 PM Community Chorus
 Thursday: 6:30 PM Fresh Start Band



A Community in Christ

Ministers
 Pastor
 Associate Pastor
 Dir. Spiritual Formation
 Middle School Youth Director
 Music Director/Organist
 Financial Administrator
 Church Administrator
 Secretary
 Nursery School Director
 Maintenance Coordinator
 Nursery School Website

Every Member of the Congregation
 Dr. Margaret T. Kutz: pastor@chesterumc.org
 Rev. Brandon Robbins: associate@chesterumc.org
 Rev. Rita Stewart: dsf@chesterumc.org
 Susan Nixon: senixon09@aol.com
 Joshua Wortham: music@chesterumc.org
 Jerri Hunter: finance@chesterumc.org
 Cathy Gentry: churchadmin@chesterumc.org
 Terry Wisegarver: cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org
 Dee Fisher: nurseryschool@chesterumc.org
 Richard Arnold: maintenance@chesterumc.org
www.cumcns.com

August 15, 2010



SCRIPTURE

Luke 16:13

SERMON

“Follow the Beat” – Rev. Brandon Robbins

MUSIC

I Feel Like Traveling On
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
Sweeter As the Days Go By
Just A Little Talk with Jesus
Trust and Obey

SPECIAL MUSIC

Feeling Music Brings--Jennifer

It's the Hazy, Lazy Days of Summer! Worship in the Cool of the Evening.—Join us for CrossRoads—Southern Gospel Worship for Today's Journey—Every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. for Southern Gospel Hymns, Special Music from the CrossRoads Band, and the leadership of Associate Pastor Brandon Robbins.

- Summer Sermon Series— Throughout the summer we'll study the Parables of Jesus.
- Tonight, **Sunday, August 15, 6:00 PM**—Join us for worship and cool off with an old fashioned treat! Popsicles will be provided.

For more information call the church office at 748-6006.

KEEP IN PRAYER: Jerri Hunter (Financial Administrator), Ann Howard (Nursery Worker), Dee Pearson, Margaret Lewis (Beth Powner's mother), Tom Welchel (Joe Welchel's father), Nothera Goynes, Beth Scarborough (Holly Scarborough's mom), Alan Matthews, Alexa Nixon, Beth Newsome, Bob Geddings, Julia Bowman, Joanna McVicker, Brenda Norris, Adele & Bill Maxwell, Edwina McCoy, Nellie Ervin, Judy Dyson, Margaret Lipscomb.

SERVICE MEMBERS:

In Iraq: Jeff Swain (Debbie Yerby's cousin), Joshua Ferron (Leanne Ferry's friend);
Lt. Col. Sid A. Taylor, Sr.

In Afghanistan: Sgt. Anthony (Tony) Eplee (friend of Gail & Ron King); Chap. Maj. Grace Hollis-Taylor, Sfc Allen Harris

Stationed in Coronado, CA: CDR Hersch Weinstock (son of Ann Stuart)

Spangdahlam, Germany: Lt. Richard M. Smyth, USAF (Tish Manuel's great-nephew)

Camp Lejeune: Rct. Ives, N.R. (Choir member and son of Liz Campbell)

We are blessed that all visitors have chosen to worship with us today. You are invited to stop by our Welcome Center in the Atrium or the table in the narthex where we have prepared gift bags for you. Information and brochures on our church may be found at our Welcome Center. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Metro Richmond at Prayer: We pray for the workplaces and businesses of Metropolitan Richmond: For financial institutions, healthy and constructive investment policies, and effective development efforts to benefit the entire community.

United Methodist Women Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, August 18, 7:00 PM in Room 116. All unit officers and fellowship leaders are asked to mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

United Methodist Men Executive Board Meeting: Sunday, August 22 at 12:15 PM in Room 233 (conference room upstairs).

A Tremendous THANK YOU is extended to the more than 200 volunteers who physically worked in the MISSION SUNDAY projects! In addition, there were many “behind the scenes” helpers who contributed greatly to this extraordinary event:

- There were more than 150 other individuals and families who brought in the needed items and supplies for the various outreaches.
- Another group of persons made monetary contributions to help in the acquiring of materials. More than \$1,000 was received in financial gifts.
- Still others (including some 20 mission project leaders and volunteers) made numerous personal contacts to set up the projects and to see that each ministry went successfully.
- The church staff worked overtime and with great patience to ensure that all of the details were completed.
- Countless individuals brought delicious dishes for the Luncheon feast with more than 25 persons assisting with the set up and clean up.

Many people stepped outside of their normal “comfort zone” and we all grew in our caring and sharing as God’s people of Chester Church.



The Joy Singers invite anyone who is old enough to get discounted coffee at McDonald’s to join us this fall. Having the ability to sing is not a prerequisite. Having a desire to fellowship and share the Gospel in area nursing homes and with other local organizations is a requirement! Rehearsals are Tuesday mornings at 10 AM in the music suite. Our first gathering will be on August 24 as we kick off the season with a potluck breakfast! All are welcome!

Choir Tour CD's are now available for \$15 in the choir suite.

Family in Need: Debbie Sheffield, daughter of Ron & Hazel Miller, works with folks whose parents suffered a house fire. The couple and their 27 year old daughter live in the home. The two women in the house work in offices and are in need of appropriate clothing for work. If you have items you would like to donate please place them in the bin labeled "Dinwiddie Fire Victims" in the Mission Closet. Women's sizes needed are: Pants/Skirts: Sizes 12-14 and 18; Tops: Extra Large; Shoes: sizes 8 and 9.

Do You Have a Heart for All Kinds of People? Everyone deserves to know our wonderful God and our own Friendship Ministry seeks to develop spiritual growth by establishing relationships. Volunteers are needed to mentor people with intellectual disabilities who attend Friendship Ministry every Sunday at 5 PM. This is a powerful ministry that will change our attitude about people who aren't like us and will also change our hearts in the process. Anyone interested in learning more, please come to the informational meeting on August 29 at 5 PM or contact LeeAnn Robbins (536-6836).

Casting Call for Lead Facilitators and/or Co-stars:

That's Right! This rewarding role may be just for you! We need more cast to serve as lead facilitators for the **Middle School AND Children's Sunday school groups**. If your preference is to serve as a co-star then we definitely would love to cast your role as well. We have many middle school students who would benefit so much from your willingness to serve in this capacity.



Please sign the pew pad if you are interested or you may contact Rita Stewart or Susan Nixon.

Let's End Hunger! Did you know that every year, we spend roughly 110 billion dollars on soft drinks. That same amount of money could end hunger in the US, end water and sanitation issues worldwide, and solve most of the world's education issues - and there would still be money left over. Therefore, Chester UMC's youth have issued a challenge to the congregation: for the month of August, don't drink soda (or another drink if you usually don't drink soda). Instead, every time you're tempted to purchase a soda, place that money in a cookie jar, a purse pocket, or some other place for safe keeping. Then, at the end of August, we will all bring our money in and use it to purchase food for our church's Backpack Ministry (a ministry that seeks to provide food for local children who go home to little or no food on the weekends). Together we can do this! Together we can come one step closer to ending hunger!

UMW Reading Program Forms are due in the UMW mailbox **TODAY**. Forms are available from your fellowship leader or by emailing rw.king1@verizon.net. Call Gail King, 796-1936, for more information.



NEW SMALL Groups **Sunday, September 5.** Preview the group offerings on our CUMC website at www.Chesterumc.org or at the display in the Atrium. You may register to participate in a small group through either of these venues. There is sure to be a group to support you on your journey of Spiritual Growth!

Dinner for 6 + 2: Groups of old and new friends meeting in fellowship in each other's homes. Our next dinner sessions will run from September through November. If you are interested in participating in this fun program, please sign up in the red pew pad/clipboard during August or contact Janis at 526-4156. Shy about hosting a dinner in your home? Just register as a +2 (couple) or +1 (single). Check out the bulletin board for a glimpse of the good times.

Cars Needed: Do you have a reliable used car that you could donate to the church to give to people in need in our community? A car will help them on the road to self-sufficiency. Please talk to Pastor Marg.

James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones presented by Jim Pettis Productions is coming to the Anderson-Turner Auditorium on the campus of Virginia State University on Sunday, August 22, 2010 at 2:00 PM. Admission is free!!! Seating is limited so get there early.

Shepherd's Center of Chesterfield cordially invites all adults over 50 to their annual free ice cream social at Chester Baptist Church "Great Hall" (4317 School Street) from 5-7 PM. Come enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun. You'll find out what's happening at the center and what's coming up in the fall for our Adventures in Learning lifelong education classes. Please RSVP to 706-6689 by August 20.

HELP WANTED: If you are in career transition, retired from a successful career or plan to re-enter the work force, please consider helping with the EmPOWERment meetings. We're seeking some dedicated people to rotate responsibility for the weekly hour-long meetings which mean so much to the unemployed in our community. For more information, please contact Kris Spadaccia (748-5578, kspadaccia@aol.com) or Pastor Brandon (748-6006, associate@chesterumc.org).

Selling Your Skills In a Tough Job Market: Sometimes it's hardest to sell yourself, but that's an essential skill in a very competitive job market. Peter Kaufman, co-owner of local advertising and PR agency, The Hoople Group, will discuss marketing tactics that work at the August 19 EmPOWERment meeting. Our meetings are held every Thursday at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall and the public is always welcome to attend.

Room/Apartment Needed: Do you have a room or apartment available for rent? We want to assist a young woman in our community. Talk to pastor Marg

We Send Weekly “Honey Do” lists via email to those interested in volunteering their time and talents in helping to maintain and beautify our church buildings. This weekly list allows interested volunteers the opportunity to review the job list and then come in at a convenient time. Our maintenance coordinator, Richard, provides all the supplies. If you would like to be on our “Honey Do” email list please sign-up on the activities sheet in the red pew pad/ clipboard.



Join us to learn more about the mission, vision, history and much more of Chester UMC. This is a 4 week series that began on Sunday, Aug. 1st at 9:45 in Room 116. Register on the pew pad if you plan to participate. Guests and friends are encouraged to attend!

Buy flip flops now! Again this fall the United Methodist Women will collect ***children's*** flip flops for the Friends of Barnabas medical mission to Honduras. Get yours now at end of summer prices! A collection box has been set up in the **missions closet** next to Pastor Marg's office. Flip flops are due no later than, September 12. Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for more information.

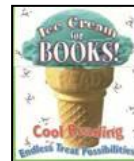
Baby Blankets! All members of the church are invited to help the United Methodist Women collect baby blankets to be made into 100 birthing kits. All other materials have been donated. Baby blankets should be approximately 36x36 inches flannelette receiving blankets. Blankets may be purchased or homemade but all blankets must be NEW. Please return blankets to the collection box in the **Mission Closet** next to Pastor Marg's office no later than August 29. Call Susan Petrey (275-9258) for more information.

Lost Boys - The "boys" are preparing to go back to college for this fall. They have received all the financial help they qualified for from the government and the state. They need our help with about \$1,500.00. To help them please write a check payable to CUMC and write “Lost Boys Tuition” on the memo line. (You can use a Mission Possible envelope.) Thank you for your help

Senior Idol Auditions will be held August 17 and 29 and September 9 for adults over age 55. More information and audition forms are available in the church office. This event is sponsored by the Shepherd's Center.

Children's Summer Reading Program: I scream! You scream! We all scream for books! Sponsors, Thank You for your support. Donations should be turned in to support our Back Pack Mission. We are proud of ALL the readers who read over 400 books within a three week period.

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Adopt-a-Student: We offer our college students a “sponsor” who will continue to remind them that CUMC cares about them throughout the college school year. **College Students:** Please let us know **by August 23** that you would like a sponsor by returning the postcard mailed to you. (You may bring/mail it to the office or drop it in the offering plate.) Contact the Church Office at 748.6006 if you did not receive a post card. **We Need Sponsors:** A sponsor simply lets the college student know that their church family cares by sending cards, letters and occasional small gifts during the school year. Your job is *totally anonymous!* Please be a blessing to one of our college students and volunteer to be a sponsor. Simply sign up in the red pew pad/clipboard, email Sue Matthews at almatthews4@comcast.net or call the church office at 748.6006.

3 ½ Inch Floppy Disks: Inquire in the office if you would like an opened box of 40 diskettes.

Leading Our Worship **NEXT SUNDAY (August 22)**

Acolytes: 11:00 Savannah Stone, Dewey Taylor

Greeters: 8:45 Julie Ferry, Richard Parisi, Bruce Carson

11:00 Martha Miles, Barbara Dance, Linda & Emory Large, Shirley Blankenship

6:00 Ruth Boyd

Ushers: 8:45 Lee Ross, Dale Clark, Rian Mey

11:00 Tam Moody, Jerry Higgins, Ivey Gilliam, Ron Miller, Gary Williams

6:00 Keith Boyd

Nursery: 8:45 Louise Ross, Victoria Martinko, Ruth Boyd, Brooke Davis

9:45 Louise Ross

11:00 Georgia Faison, Barbara Rollins

Welcome Center: 9:45 Joan Wilkinson 11:00 Louise Ross