

Keep on Praying Sermon Notes

Luke 18:1-18

What this parable says is that God is not like this _____. God does hear and respond to our prayers.

There are three levels of meaning to consider:

1. Do not give up when praying. Luke is making very clear that we pray to a God who hears and answers our prayers. It may take awhile but God always hears and responds. Praying for the long haul changes us and our prayers. We become more like God and our prayers better reflect God's _____.
2. Pray for Jesus' return. In many ways this is not so much about God's faithfulness to us but our faithfulness to God; i.e. will we be found faithful when _____ returns?
3. We are to pray for justice in the world. Because God works through human beings it takes time for God to work out the details of _____. We are to keep praying.

PIZZA WITH THE PASTORS

Anyone interested in getting some one-on-one time with Pastors Marg and Brandon is invited to sign up for the August 29 "Pizza with the Pastors". It will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 11:00 worship service. You can sign up by calling Cathy Gentry at the church office or signing up in the red pew pad/clipboard. This is a great way to introduce yourself to our pastors and get to know more about our church too.





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 22 - 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

All Because of Jesus

My Savior Lives

Give Us Clean Hands

Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble?

Lord, Reign in Me

SPECIAL MUSIC

“It’s Only”

Brandon Robbins

SERMON

“Keep Praying”

Rev. Dr. Margaret T. Kutz

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-8

**Beginning September 12
Fresh Start will start at 8:30 AM
Light Breakfast at 8:20**

August 22, 2010

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
11:00 AM

13th 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

Immortal, Invisible

Organist

Call to Worship (based on Psalms 46)

Leader: God is our fortress and our strength,

Congregation: a very present help in trouble.

Leader: Therefore we will not fear,

Congregation: though the earth should change,

Leader: though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Congregation: God is our fortress and strength!

* Opening Hymn No. 110 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

* Opening Prayer

O God, our Fortress and Strength, you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house. Grant us grace to worship you in Spirit and in truth. Amen.

* Welcome and Greeting

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Children's Message

Pastor Brandon

Prayer for Illumination

As your disciples asked you so many years ago, "teach us to pray". Indeed, Lord Jesus, through this parable on prayer, teach us to pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 18:1-8

Sermon

"Keep Praying"

Rev. Dr. Margaret T. Kutz

Personal Sharing and Prayer (The Lord's Prayer No. 895)

Offering

Offertory Music

"It's Only"

Rev. Brandon Robbins

* Doxology No. 95

THANKSGIVING

Community Announcements

SENDING FORTH

- * Closing Hymn No. 428 *For the Healing of the Nations*
 - * Benediction
 - * Postlude
-

- * 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 Granny Moo's (Lorraine Moody) birthday by Tam, Bonnie, Tyler, Scott, Terri, Mallory and Evan Moody.

Leading Our Worship **TODAY (August 22)**

Acolytes: 11:00 Savannah Stone, Dewey Taylor

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

11:00 Martha Miles, Ann Jeter, Linda & Emory Large, Shirley Blankenship

6:00 Ruth Boyd

Ushers: 8:45 Wayne Stuart, Dale Clark, Rian Mey

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

6:00 Keith Boyd

Nursery: 8:45 Lisa Stanfield, Victoria Martinko, Ruth Boyd, Brooke Davis

9:45 TBD

11:00 Georgia Faison, Barbara Rollins

Welcome Center: 9:45 Joan Wilkinson **11:00** TBD

August 22, 2010



SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-8

SERMON

“Pray, Pray More” – Rev. Brandon Robbins

MUSIC

Unclouded Day

How Do I Know?

When the Roll is Called Up Yonder

Jesus Built this Church on Love

What a Friend We Have In Jesus

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lilly of the Valley—CrossRoads Band

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

KEEP IN PRAYER: Grace Luther, Jerri Hunter (Financial Administrator), Ann Howard (Nursery Worker), Dee Pearson, Tom Welchel (Joe Welchel's father), Nothera Goyne, 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 economic development in depressed portions of the city, for the establishment of businesses that will create new employment opportunities.

We Welcome into Christian Membership Margie Ashburn by transfer from New Hanover Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsville, Virginia.

Congratulations to Nat Ives who graduated from the United States Marine Corps boot camp in Camp Lejeune, NC on August 20, 2010. Nat will enjoy a 10 day leave before heading to Marine Corps Palms (Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, California) for electronics training associated with air traffic control. Semper Fidelis—Always Faithful.

James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones presented by Jim Pettis Productions will be at the Anderson-Turner Auditorium on the campus of Virginia State University TODAY at 2 PM. Admission is free!!! Seating is limited so get there early.

United Methodist Men Executive Board Meeting: Sunday, August 29 at 12:00 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.



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!

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.

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).

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!

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.

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.

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! Place donations in the labeled bin in the Mission Closet no later than, September 12. Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for more information.

Baby Blankets! The United Methodist Women are collecting 36 x 36 flannelette baby receiving blankets to complete 100 birthing kits. Blankets must be NEW (purchased or homemade). Please place blankets in labeled bin in the **Mission Closet** 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 may use a Mission Possible envelope.) Thank you for your help.

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 UNopened box of 40 diskettes.

Clothes Drive Outreach: Come and let us bless your family with FREE gently used clothing for men, women, juniors and children. Aug. 28; 8 AM- 12 PM; Swift Creek Baptist Church (18510 Branders Bridge Road). Light refreshments will be served.

Leading Our Worship **NEXT SUNDAY (August 29)**

Acolytes: 11:00 Gabe Higgins, Ruthie Higgins

Greeters: 8:45 Pam Young, Don Schmidt, Megan Carson

11:00 Carolyn Maxwell, Marian & Ed Garrett, Pat Pospahala, Betty Martinko

6:00 Tommy Boyd

Ushers: 8:45 Bill Comer, Tommy Boyd, David Ferry

11:00 Bill McCarney, Ron Hargrave, Bill Lloyd, Jr., Vann Stanfield, Gary Williams

6:00 Gordon Morris

Nursery: 8:45 Matt Coyner, Megan Carson, Karen Clark, Aaron Bryant

9:45 Megan Carson

11:00 Sharon Buchanan, Sandra Dishman

Welcome Center: 9:45 Karen & Courtney Cole **11:00** Shirley Blankenship