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“The Process”

Recently, the garage door opener at our house needed to be replaced. After spending more time than is reasonable researching openers and reading way too many customer reviews, I obtained a new one. It arrived Friday afternoon and I quickly got to work installing it. I opened the box and started pulling out parts bags, unwrapping items, assembling pieces, discarding others....just generally figuring it out.

After about 30 minutes I was starting to feel like I was in over my head. I took out the directions and realized I hadn't begun at step 1. The instructions laid out a specific, step-by-step process for installation--a system specially designed to get me to the goal in as efficient way as possible. Yet instead, I just started at about step 4 and couldn't figure out why I wasn't making any progress.

I like systems and process – they make sense to me because they are linear, sequential. You start here, you do this, you go here next, and eventually, after following the directions, you get your desired result. We follow systems in recipes, building projects, even getting ready in the morning. In fact, most of our day is ordered by a system or process whether we know it or not.

Last fall our Church Administrative Board asked the question: “What is our process for ‘making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world’?” (Hopefully you recognize this as our mission statement). After some discussion, we have been working to develop what the discipleship/faith development process looks like.

On the next page is a matrix we developed for this process. On the left side of the matrix are the different stages of our faith (these correspond with the stages of grace we discussed in August). Across the top are the movements of faith we have been discussing in worship throughout September. If you look at the bottom row – it describes the actions/activities of someone who is committed and working on growing and maturing in their faith – someone who embodies becoming a disciple. The row row describes ways to get started in each of those areas, and the middle rows describe how to begin moving to a deeper commitment.

It is my hope that you will take some time to look over this table and consider where you are and where you want to be. Spend some time thinking and praying about how you might take a step further into one or more of these areas. Our goal is to become fully formed disciples of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer, and that of our church leaders, that this process will help us all understand better how to accomplish that goal.

Blessings, Chris

	Gather In	Lift up	Dig Down	Go Out
Starting Point - The Front Porch	Be friendly to others. Consider what it means to have a faith relationship.	Attend worship services (in-person or online) occasionally. Pray occasionally.	Visit a small group, consider regular engagement. Begin exploring Scripture. Participate in a conversation about what a deeper commitment to God and faith might look like.	Participate in a mission/service event held by the church - Blood Drive, Collection for food pantry, Salvation Army Bell ringing, etc. Read your Bible in a public space.
Next Steps - The Front Door	Make a commitment to the mission and vision of Nelson Memorial. Pray for opportunities to invite a friend, coworker, neighbor, or relative to a ministry or event at church.	Attend worship services (in-person or online) 2-3 times a month. Commit to praying daily.	Regularly participate in a small group. Practice spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible study, etc.) regularly. Continue reading the Bible - perhaps 5 chapters a week.	Commit to an ongoing mission opportunity - Kids Hope, Food Pantry, Baby Grace, etc. Look for community needs and ways you/we might address them.
Going Deeper - In The House	Regularly invite others to worship and other events/activities. Share with others the reason for your hope/faith in God. Pray for those God has laid on your heart to share your faith story with.	Attend worship services unless sick or out of town. Participate in worship through serving as a liturgist, participating in the music ministry, or helping in other ways. Pray 5 times (or more) a day.	Regularly participate in a small group and consider leading. Mentor others in their faith by example and in intentional relationships. Scripture reading is a regular practice, listening for the leading of the Holy Spirit.	Serve the community in ongoing ways. Organize opportunities for others to serve. Invite others to join you in service. Live your faith so that others will be inspired by your example.

Nelson Memorial United Methodist Church

Board Update - Plumbing Recovery

To the Congregation:

As many of you know, we recently had a water event at the church, which sent hundreds of gallons of water flowing peacefully through our office, down the stairs, and into our basement. With God's grace, it was noticed relatively soon after it had begun, and an incredible series of events began.

Stalwart members of our church, Elvin Farquhar and Linda Gordon after finding this, began to make calls to myself, Pastor Chris, and ServePro to begin reclamation and mitigation efforts. They were joined by myself, Bill Salyer, and Larry Schler. ServePro sent nearly a dozen people and several vehicles.

After removing the water, setting 62 fans and several dehumidifiers throughout the church, the real work of assessing the damage began. Flooring in at least three rooms had to come up and more to follow. The children's chapel, lounge, and hall bathroom, were joined by the Sunday school classrooms with extensive water damage to both floor and furniture.

These issues are almost always better, as bad and worse than they seem all at the same time. Our insurance carrier, Brotherhood Mutual sent an adjuster to assess our losses. Through a complicated formula of actual loss, depreciation and good will, they arrived at a figure to help compensate the loss. We broke just even on this event after paying for the services and replacement of critical items. We were truly blessed it was not worse and even more so that no one was hurt at any point during or after.

All this while learning that our air conditioning units are all woefully out of date; no longer serviceable; and must be replaced before one calendar year passes.

In the upcoming days we will be making difficult decisions about the infrastructure of our church building, and trying to provide for long overdue and necessary improvements. We, the board, very humbly ask that you pray about how best to assist us in these endeavors. If you have questions about these issues, our response, or the upcoming needs of the church and how you may help, please feel free to reach out to myself, or any member of the board. We are here for our church and all the members it calls.

Thank you and blessings!

Mike Krohn, Board Chair

Entering the Church Triumphant: Tom Maxwell



Tom Maxwell entered the Church Triumphant on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at Boone Hospital surrounded by his loving family. The service to celebrate his life was held at the church on Saturday, September 24, and was officiated by Revs. Chris Snyder and Dan Faust. Final Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. Our prayers are with Betty Ann and the Maxwell Family.

Youth Group Activities



Friday, October 7th - Youth Group Lock-In at 9:00 pm to 10:00 am at the Church.

Sunday, October 16th - Youth Group will be participating in the bike ride. On Sunday, October 23rd - Youth Group will be participating in the Bonfire and Hayride also.

Sunday School Celebration



On October 16th there will be a celebration of Sunday School including a potluck breakfast, awarding of Bibles to 3rd grade students, and recognition of Sunday School leaders.

Get Those Bikes Ready!



Everyone is invited to join us for a family bike ride on Sunday, October 16th at 1:00 pm. We will meet at the Katy Trail trailhead.

We will ride about 2 miles, take a break and have refreshments, and ride back to the trailhead.

Hayride and Bonfire



It is officially Fall! Bring your families to the Haller's home on Sunday, October 23rd for a hayride, bonfire and other fall activities. The party starts at 5:00. Hot dogs and s'mores provided by the education committee. Please bring a side dish to share!

Baby Grace News

The Baby Grace program offers **prayers** and **support** to young parents. In addition, participants receive a **gift basket** upon the birth of a child, can attend the monthly **Open House** to shop in the "**free store**", and can interact with other young moms. Open House is held the third Thursday of each month from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. For more information contact Barbara Wooldridge, Baby Grace Director.

Outreach Committee's "Leave the Leaves to Us" Fall Event



The Outreach Committee is organizing a Fall Event "Leave the Leaves to Us" to be held on Saturday, Oct. 22nd. We are wanting to take our resources, or our people, out into our neighborhood around NMUMC and help with some Fall Clean-Up type jobs like raking leaves, cleaning out gutters, etc. We are inviting you, men, women and children to be a part of this service to the community that surrounds us.

Please sign up to volunteer on the sign-up sheet that is in the East Wing or Karma Haller @ 660-537-3061 or Katy Giroux at 573-825-8775 or email at hallerk@prairiehome.k12.mo.us or ktsprad@hotmail.com. We would love to have as many volunteers as possible. There is a morning shift and an afternoon shift with lunch being served in Fellowship Hall from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The morning shift is from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and the afternoon shift from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please bring rakes, yard equipment and gloves. If you have seen a yard that needs our help, please let us know. Come and join our team as we go out into our Neighborhood in God's Love.

We are blessed in so many ways . . .



Thank you to all our dear church family and many others who offered expressions of condolences. Every card and donation received (as well as flowers, plants, and food) were very much appreciated. Thank you to all who came to celebrate Tom's life. We appreciate each of you. Love, Betty Ann and the Maxwell family.





October Birthday's



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|----|--|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Lauren Thacher | 19 | Kacey Arnold, Brett Rogers |
| 2 | Adlai Belstle, Sarah Koch, Erin McGaha | 21 | Nick Haller, Jackie Leonard |
| 3 | Jocelynn Litton | 22 | John Tincher |
| 4 | Kevin Caldwell, Debbie Maxwell ☺, Nancy Ward | 23 | Doug Abele |
| 5 | Elly Giroux, Nancy Hoff | 24 | Miles Benjamin Phelps |
| 6 | Mason Maxwell Ruesing ☺ | 25 | Michael Schmidt |
| 7 | Donna Reagan | 26 | Betty Maxwell ☺, Matt Parker |
| 8 | Leah Gumbel, Megan Thieman | 27 | Theresa Geyer, Michael Crowe |
| 11 | David Wax, Zaden Johnson | 28 | Hope Mesik, Faith Mesik |
| 12 | Sarah Langston, Virginia Litwiller | 29 | Daniel Comegys, Sean Schreck |
| 13 | Mary Pat Abele, Kirk Farris | 30 | Arliss Caldwell |
| 17 | Travis Thacher | 31 | John Chipley |

October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 9:00 TOPS 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting, FH	4 7:00 pm Choir Practice	5 10:15 am - Noon Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	6	7 9:00 pm - Youth Group Lock-In, FH 7:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	8 8:30 UM Men
9 11:30 am - 5:30 pm Admin. Board Retreat, TBA 4:00 pm - HOA Meeting Reserved for Sunset Trail Subdivision, FH	10 9:30 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting, FH	11	12 10:15 am - Noon Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon Al-Anon Meeting, FH	13 1:00 pm Baby Grace Sort and Size 6:00 pm - Praise Band Practice	14 7:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	15
16 Sunday School Celebration 2:00 pm Family Bike Ride Boonville Trailhead	17 9:30 am TOPS 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting, FH	18 7:00 Choir Practice	19 10:15 am - Noon Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	20 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Baby Grace Distribution	21 7:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	22 8:00 am - 12:00 am, 4-H Group, FH Outreach Leaves Event
23 5:00 pm Bonfire and Hayride @ the Haller's	24 9:30 am TOPS 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, FH	25	26 10:15 am - Noon Women's Bible Study, Lounge 12:00 Noon, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	27 6:00 pm - Praise Band Practice	28 7:00 pm, Al-Anon Meeting, FH	29
30	31 9:30 am TOPS 8:00 pm Anon Meeting, FH					