

Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

~BRIDGE BUILDING: THE TIME IS NOW CHRIST'S CHURCH~

~INVITATION TO SHARING OUR TITHES, GIFTS, & OURSELVES~

DOXOLOGY: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: (Unison)**

All: God, our provider, your Word creates our life and strength. Everything we have is a gift from your open hand. Guide us by your Spirit to be diligent and faithful stewards of all that you entrust to our care. May we not bury our gifts or fearfully hoard resources. Fill our hearts with trust, so that we can experience your joy in giving. May our congregation show your generosity through our mission in the world. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** "We Are Called" TFWS 2172

~SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION~

All: "We have become his poetry a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!" (Ephesians 2:10)

Pastor: Go in peace; love and care for one another in Christ's name, and may God bless you with every gift needful for His work, may the Spirit grant you the willingness to risk yourself completely for the sake of the gospel, and may the love and the compassion and the hope and the faith of Jesus dwell richly within you till the time of his coming both now and forevermore. The Church has left the building!

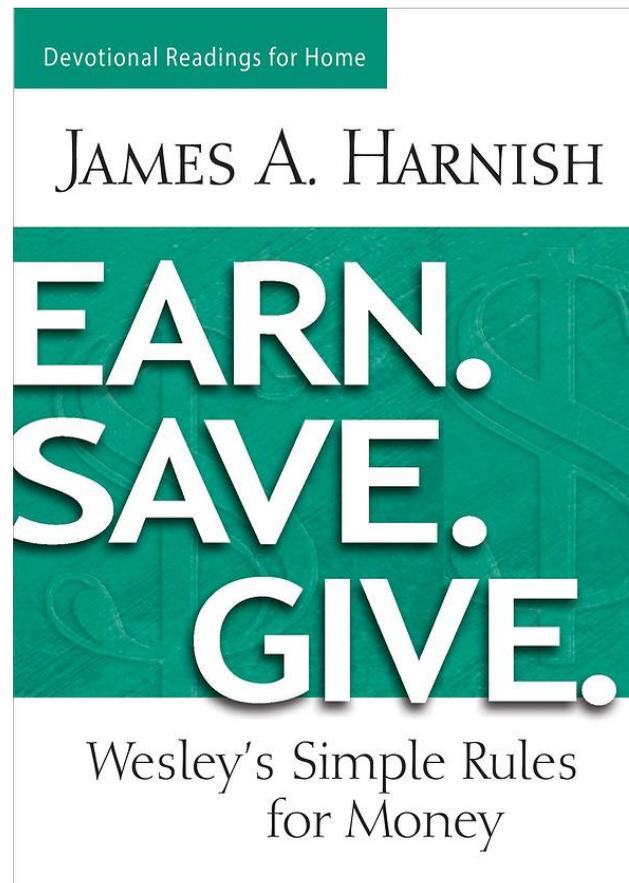
POSTLUDE:



FIFTH AVE. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

323 South 5th Ave. West Bend WI 53095

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost ~ October 10, 2021~



"Save all you can."

Parable of the Talents"

Last week we begin the 2022 Stewardship Campaign with Wesley's first pillar for Money – "Earn all you can".

The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30) communicates the truth of Wesley's second instruction for Money – "Save all you can."

This pillar is not a justification to accumulate wealth for our own sake; Christians save all they can as a spiritual practice enabling them to grow towards a greater end – namely, discovering how our resources can be used to bring about God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Mustard Seed God, may your inspiration grow in our hearts until, working together, we accomplish great things in your name. Amen.

**Soloist
Liturgist**

Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Senior Pastor

“No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You're Welcome Here”
As you participate with heart and/or voice, the words will be displayed on the screen for your convenience.

*Note: L: denotes worship Leader ~ P: denotes People

~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

ORGAN PRELUDE:

~WELCOME~

GREETING:

Pastor: *The Church has left the building!* When our life is over, our eternal destiny will be based on our faith in Jesus. Salvation is by grace, not through our good works (Eph. 2:8-10). However, we will be held accountable for what we do with what we have been given by God. He has given us talents and made an investment in our lives and He expects a return on it. By God's grace, we are made aware of Jesus' return to settle accounts, but our motivation should not be from fear, but from the joy and gratitude of being entrusted talents by the Lord to serve Him and produce fruit for His kingdom and for His glory. Come Church! Let us leave the building and **SAVE ALL WE CAN!**

Pastor Clarissa: 847-721-1826; Ms. Ellen Johnson: 262-338-8535;
Email pastor@faumc.org

~STEWARDSHIP 2021 – EARN SAVE GIVE~

Ed Fowell - Member, 2022 Stewardship Team

~5th AVE. JUNCTION - WHERE FAITH AND FAMILY COME TOGETHER~

HYMN: “Jesus Loves Me” vs. #1 UMH 191

~COME, LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER~

CENTERING MUSIC:

*CALLED TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

L: The time for harvest is close at hand. What have you done with the gifts God has given you?

P: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.

L: Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for service that they represent.

P: We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.

L: Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.

P: Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude.

*PRAYING IN COMMUNITY: (Unison)

All: Lord, I love that the Scriptures are so challenging sometimes, even though it's scary. I love that you invite me into something so compelling and so beautiful. My prayer today, God, is that you would speak to my faith community about who you are, who we are, what you want us to do and how you might allow us to leverage everything we have for your holy name, for your kingdom, for the hope of the world. I pray you give each of us in this sacred space spiritual wisdom. Wisdom to know what steps to take; that we might see ourselves through your eyes. That the lenses that are smudged and seeing things incorrectly would be wiped glistening clean. That the economy of the kingdom, the economy of grace, would be the economy we all cheerfully submit under the lordship, of our Provider, Jesus. Lord, it's our honor to serve you, to drop our earthly nets and follow you. We ask all these things in the strong and powerful name of Jesus.

Leader: This beautiful and loving church, together, responds....Amen

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

L: “God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up...” in the knowledge that in Jesus Christ we are enriched, we are loved, we are forgiven. (1 Thess. 5:9-11)

P: Thanks be to God!

*HYMN: “The Old Rugged Cross” UMH 504

~WE PROCLAIM~

Matthew 25:25-30 The Passion Translation (TPT) (Unison) (Insert)

SERMON: “SAVE ALL YOU CAN - Parable of the Talents” Pastor Clarissa

~PRAYERS & CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE~

Pastor: Lord in your mercy...

People: Hear our prayer.

Parable of the Talents ~ Matthew 25:14-30

Good morning! [Hold up a bottle/jug of milk] What am I holding? Do you ever drink milk? Have you ever tasted milk that sat in the refrigerator for too long? (If so, do you remember what it tasted like? We usually call milk that has been in the refrigerator for too long or left in room temperature for too long as spoiled milk. But, did you know that milk is not the only drink/food that spoils? Lots of different types of food and drink spoil, which means you have to eat it before it spoils. Which makes me think of a kind of fun phrase we could say about food that spoils of, “Use it or lose it.”

Keep that “Use it or lose it” phrase in mind because we’re going to come back to it in a minute. In today’s scripture story, Jesus tells a story (or a “parable”) about a boss who gives his workers lots and lots of gifts (in the story, these gifts are called talents) One of the workers chooses to NOT use the talents that were given to him. Instead, he buries his talents. And did you hear what happened after he buried his talents? That’s right! Later on, he lost all of his talents after he buried them. In other words, that one worker didn’t use his talents and then experienced the “losing” part of “Use it or lose it” when it came to the talents and gifts he had been given.

I think one of the reasons Jesus tells this story is to remind us to not lose the gifts and talents that God gives us. But I think Jesus also tells this story to remind us of something even more important. In that parable Jesus told, there are two other workers who DID use the talents that the boss gave to them. And did you hear what happened for those two people? When they used their talents, those talents kept GROWING and GROWING and GROWING!

In other words, when we use the talents that God gives us, they become even better gifts! And, one of the things that Jesus teaches us is how to better know about and then use the gifts that God has given to us. Then, when we use those gifts that God gave us, those gifts just keep on giving and giving and giving – to us and to others! How amazing and cool is that!? That is the good news for today. Let’s pray.

Dear God, thank you for Jesus who shows us how to receive the gifts you offer us and how to use those gifts for ourselves and those around us. Thank you and amen.

Adapted from: https://rfour.org/childrensmessgae_a_51.html

Matthew 25: 14-30



Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ABILITIES
ACCORDING
ACCOUNTS
ADDITIONAL
DISCIPLES
ENTRUSTED
FAITHFUL

FORWARD
JOURNEY
MASTER
MATTERS
PARABLE
POSSESSIONS
RESPONSABILITIES

SERVANTS
SETTLED
SHARE
SMALL
TALENTS

Go out into the world in peace, and in Christ's name be – the humble who make others proud the poor who have riches to share; the weak who help others be strong; the empty who overflows with loving kindness. And the largeness of the love of God, and the treasure of the grace of Christ Jesus, and the buoyant health of the Holy Spirit will be with you now and forever. Amen. 1 Timothy 3:8–13.

IMMEDIATE NEED TO SERVE:

Greeters/Hospitality Training – Greeting guest (visitors) at church is such an important part of the hospitality ministry of our church. Church Greeters are part of the ministry team and form part of the first impression that a guest receives. Our hospitality ministry is one of the most important factors in the experience of first-time guest that will influence their personal decision to come back to our church. Sign up for our Church Hospitality Training to be held in November 2021. Come as we reignite our hospitality ministry. All are welcome; all are needed.

Remember, the duties of a church greeter are more than a handshake.

Outside Hospitality Mission Ministry - Most churches today would say that they want guests to feel welcome. Apart from the smiling greeter at the front door, how else do guests feel welcome? Architecture and landscape (curb appeal) speak. Not verbally, of course, but the outside to our building is the first point of contact for our visitors. What does it say to them? While we generally equate the word “entrance” with “door”, the actual idea of entrance actually begins much farther away, at the parking lot, sidewalk or walkway. This is where visitor first perceives the entrance. Let the “entrance” be prominent: distinctive and welcoming.

In most places in America, the first impression of a church doesn't come from the sanctuary, but from the landscaping. The ground around the church can be an important and critical way to invite curiosity to venture closer. Join our Outside Hospitality Mission Team on 20 October 2021 @ 6:00 pm as begin inviting people to start browsing our outside; leading them to more likely to come inside. *“Ahh, we've been waiting for you! Welcome!”* Come! You are needed.

Chair, Accountable Leadership Board – For the ram in the bush, we give God high praise!

There is an opportunity for a Co-chair position of ALB. Will you come and serve?

FAUMC Lay Leader & Lay Servant Speaker – Volunteer has stepped forward. Amen!

Staff Pastor and Parish Relations (SPPRC) - Vacant Positions: future SPPRC Co-chair (s) to allow for adequate training and turnover.

Board of Trustees Co-Chairperson and Trustee Team - Vacant Positions: ALB Trustee Co-Chair will be stepping down in December 2021. There is an urgent need for Trustees

Team members. At this time there is only one person conducting or coordinating the maintenance and repairs for the entire church. Urgent request for this position.

Volunteers for Trustees has stepped forward. – With give God thanks!

Christian Education Co-Chair(s) and Team - Vacant Positions: Christian Education Co-Chair(s) and Teachers.

Visitation Coordinator - This is a priority vacancy.

God asks the church to be a community of people sharing a common purpose and fellowship, continually growing in faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God. Each one of us are sent out to visit those who are unable to attend church gatherings; this includes the sick and the homebound, those in assisted care facilities, and those in the hospital. We continue to “Live Jesus” as we bring warmth, smiles, and our love to those who cannot be physically with us. In the church we are specifically asked to “bear one another’s burdens” (Gal. 6:12) and “encourage one another” (I Thess. 5:11). People come to the church because they believe that in the body of Christ they will be cared for, challenged to grow and supported in their times of difficulty.

Lay Servant Speaker - is one of the significant lay leadership development programs available within the United Methodist connection. Through this system of equipping and empowering, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples.

We invite all persons that have been blessed with the gift of teaching, preaching, or apply themselves to the service of God to attend an upcoming Lay Servant Ministries Certification course. Lay ministry is the work of mission or ministry to which each believer is called. As Christians we are all called to this ministry or priesthood—not just clergy. Each of us has a responsibility to proclaim the Good News and reach out to others in love.

The apostle Paul wrote to the evangelist Timothy, *do everything you can to present yourself to God as a man (person) who is fully genuine, a worker unashamed of your mission, a guide capable of leading others along the correct path defined by the word of truth.*

Such a person has come forward! We give God thanks and praise!! Will you come and serve God's people?

Nothing will help us more to please God than to handle carefully and correctly God's written word. We should look to the written word of God with the same reverence as the psalmist who wrote, thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:105).

Prison and Jail Ministry – The Fifth Ave. Prison and Jail Ministries brings hope and encouragement to those within the prison and jail walls. Acting as an arm of the local church and empowered by the Spirit of God, we:

- Touch lives with Christian love
- Present the Gospel in clear and understandable terms
- Nurture new believers in faith and discipleship
- Facilitate contacts with churches and Christians on the outside

Communion Coordinator(s) and Communion Stewards- set-up for or coordinate the setting up of Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month or as required by senior pastor or special worship.

Two persons have come forward to be responsible for the preparation of the bread, wine and the communion ware for use in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. There is still room for others to serve on this sacred team. Do this in remembrance of me!

Liturgist - The word “liturgist” in Greek means “work of the people”. Serving as liturgist gives an opportunity for members of the congregation to become more involved in worship. This involves leading the Call to Worship, reading the scriptures, and assisting when Communion is served. Liturgist Training is provided. Please contact Ms. Jean Krell to volunteer.

Several persons have said, “Yes”! There is room for you. Lord inn your mercy, hear our prayer.

Guest Services Coordinator - The Guest Services Coordinator is responsible for all components related to delivering an extraordinary guest experience at all Sunday Worship Services and special events at FAUMC.

Annual Conference Lay Delegates (2 delegates) - Effective Lay Member of Annual Conference informs the congregation about The United Methodist Church in the conference and around the world.

One delegate has answered the call to serve. In Jesus name. Amen.

Fellowship Kitchen Coordinators – FILLED! Hallelujah!

Decoration Coordinator – FILLED! Praise the Lord!

United Methodist Men/Fifth Ave. UMC Men’s Ministry - involves men in a growing relationship to Jesus Christ and his church and provides resources and support for programs of evangelism, stewardship and the needs of men.

The leader or leaders of this ministry will partner with the pastor, to invite and initiate spiritual growth opportunities for all men of the church. Helping men to mature as disciples as they encourage spiritual formation in others. To empower the ministry of Jesus Christ through men within the congregations of the UMC.

Where are you being called to serve?