

STRETCHING OUR FAITH

METROPOLITAN INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday, July 8, 2018

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION

The pastor's entrance and the beginning of the musical prelude are the calls to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

THE GATHERING

*We are standing on Holy ground,
And I know that there are angels all around.*

*Let us praise Jesus now,
We are standing in God's presence on Holy Ground.*

LITANY

- Leader:** Let us praise the Lord in the house of the Lord!
- People:** Let us praise the house of the Lord for its faithful witness.
- Leader:** Let us celebrate its power to convict sinners of their guilt,
- People:** Moving them to confess the errors of their way.
- Leader:** Let us celebrate its power to convince prophets of the truth,
- People:** Empowering them to declare the word of the Lord.
- Leader:** Let us celebrate its power to alert stewards to their mission,
- People:** Equipping them to discern the humanity of the deprived.
- Leader:** Let us celebrate its power to turn disciples to their task,
- People:** Prompting them to join the ministry of healing.
- Leader:** Let us celebrate its power to recruit champions of the wronged,
- People:** Inspiring them to take up the cause of justice.
- ALL:** Let us praise the Lord in the house of the Lord! May our witness be faithful and our service, glad!
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OPENING HYMN

“GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS”

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

REFRAIN: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above;
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. **REFRAIN**
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth;
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **REFRAIN**

WELCOME

If you are here for the first time, we are delighted that you came. If you are dropping in for a second or third visit, we are glad you found something you were looking for. We hope you will be challenged by our worship and that you will come back again. If you are looking for a faith community, we would welcome you as a part of our church family. When you are officially welcomed as a visitor, you will receive a Visitor's Information Card. Please fill it out, and return it to the Pastor, or place it in the offering plate. **WELCOME!**

CONCERNS OF CHURCH AND CITY

Billye Sanders

OFFERTORY

“For all things come from you, and of your own we have given you.” 1 Chronicles 29:14

(We are now accepting tithes and offerings by credit and debit card in the sanctuary.)

Your tithes and gifts help us:

- Pay the mortgage, utilities, maintenance, and security for the Metropolitan Meeting House;
- Provide free pastoral counseling services to members of our congregation;
- Fund the First Response Center programs, serving over 700 people living with HIV/AIDS, and others at-risk;
- Pay for the personnel and operating costs of our ministries;
- Provide educational materials/resources to assist in our community's spiritual growth and development;
- Maintain meeting space for ministries, including Metropolitan Praise Dancers, Girl Scouts, recovery/support groups, and events;
- Fund our annual Anniversary and Homecoming celebrations;

Every gift of your time, talent, and treasure makes a vital difference in the life and ministries of Metropolitan Interdenominational Church. Thank You!

CELEBRATION IN SONG

The Voices of Metropolitan
Reginald Green, Minister of Music

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

THE WORD

Mark 6:1-13

CHORAL RESPONSE

Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage, For the living of these days, For the living of these days.

PREPARATORY PERIOD

OUR CALLING

Metropolitan Interdenominational Church is a community of believers inclusive of all and alienating to none, leading the way to spiritual growth by sharing God’s love with the world.

THE MESSAGE

THE SENIOR SERVANT

“THINK A NEW THOUGHT”

6 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Mark 6:1-13

SERMON NOTES

RESPONSE

Please do not leave the sanctuary or in any other manner create a distraction during the invitational period. This is a moment of unparalleled importance.

MOMENTS OF REFLECTION

The Voices of Metropolitan

INVITATION TO LIFE IN CHRIST

This church will welcome into its membership any persons who love and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and who promise to live according to His laws of Love, recognizing all people as brothers and sisters for whom He gave His life.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Prayer

We do not presume to come to this, Thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs from under Thy table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this sacrament of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life and grow to reflect Thy Spirit in all things forevermore, Amen.

(We will eat and drink together after all have been served.)

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

We've come too far to turn back now; By the grace of God we're gonna make it somehow.
Nobody knows the trouble we've seen; We've come too far to turn back now.

The need for love is so related to the structure of the personality that when this need is not met, the personality is stunted and pushed or twisted out of shape. Here we are not dealing with some luxury item for personality but rather with an utter necessity. If such a need is so basic in the life of the child, then its fulfillment must not be left merely to the whim and mood of the parent. That is to say, nature must of necessity be wise enough to know already what we are slowly discovering. There must be some provision made for this in the personality of the mother at a point that is more profound than that which is merely voluntary or volitional. Here it is an obvious need in the very nature of being a mother must be present to deal with that need. This something is MOTHER LOVE. It seems that this quality is indigenous in the female structure. -- HOWARD THURMAN

CORE VALUES	Our core values define the framework within which we live out the ideals of Our Calling based upon the word of God as reflected in Jesus Christ.
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Loving, Giving, Serving, Inclusive, Reconciling, Fellowship, Liberating	INCLUSIVE: <i>Embracing, Welcoming, Accepting</i>
LOVING: <i>Worshiping, Comforting, Caring</i>	RECONCILING: <i>Forgiving, Restoring, Affirming</i>
GIVING: <i>Sharing, Supporting, Volunteering</i>	FELLOWSHIP: <i>Celebrating, Belonging, Participating</i>
SERVING: <i>Helping, Ministering, Providing</i>	LIBERATING: <i>Teaching, Nurturing, Advocating</i>

METROPOLITAN INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH

Location: 2128 11th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37208

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 280779, Nashville, TN 37228

Phone: (615) 72METRO (726-3876) ~ **Fax:** (615) 259-9210 ~ **website:** www.micwhosoever.org

Rev. Edwin C. Sanders, II, Senior Servant

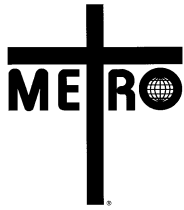
Rev. John Cross, Senior Pastoral Assistant

Pastoral Staff: Rev. Marcella Lockhart, Rev. Clifford Smith,

Rev. Christopher Davis, Rev. Donna Whitney, Rev. Terry Terrell,

Rev. Regina McCrary, Rev. Neely Williams, Rev. Stephanie Thompson,

Rev. Cherie Booker, Rev. Christopher Goodwin



STRETCHING OUR FAITH
METROPOLITAN INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH
Sunday, July 8, 2018 ~ Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Metropolitan Interdenominational Church is a community of believers inclusive of all and alienating to none, leading the way to spiritual growth by sharing God's love with the world.

THERE IS NO TIME FOR FOOLISHNESS

THERE IS NO TIME FOR FOOLISHNESS in the world today. We are in the midst of an era when every form of madness you can imagine seems to be loose among us. The forces of evil are on the move everywhere and we cannot afford to be talking about, dealing with and caught up in trivial and insignificant matters. We are continually bombarded with accounts of people being intimidated by economic insufficiency, social deterioration, hostile living environments, dehumanizing experiences, racial injustice, cultural bigotry, threats of ecological disaster and biological annihilation. People too often allow themselves to be preoccupied with petty considerations of where a person is from and what the world's assessment of a person is, instead of dealing with the clear evidence that every individual is endowed with infinite potential. This is without a doubt what Jesus was dealing with in *Mark 6:1-13* when he found himself being rejected by those who would rather question his authority than receive his blessings. The people who "took offense at him" were the ones who should have been most eager to embrace his message, but they couldn't get beyond their jealousy, insecurity and fear. God knows, it is critical for us not to be perpetuators of this reality because now, more than ever before, THERE IS NO TIME FOR FOOLISHNESS.

(Reprinted from July 5, 2009)

--Senior Servant

~ Giving Summary ~

Date	Offering – Budgeted	Offering – Actual	Offering (Un)Realized	Summary
2017 Year End	\$305,710.00	\$294,948.21		(\$10,761.79)
January, 2018	\$23,080.00	\$19,402.73	(\$3,677.27)	(\$3,677.27)
February, 2018	\$23,080.00	\$22,347.27	(\$732.73)	(\$4,410.00)
March, 2018	\$23,080.00	\$18,651.38	(\$4,428.62)	(\$8,834.62)
April, 2018	\$28,850.00	\$31,119.22	\$2,269.22	(\$6,565.40)
May, 2018	\$23,080.00	\$22,030.32	(\$1,049.68)	(\$7,515.08)
June, 2018	\$23,080.00	\$19,879.80	(\$3,002.20)	
July 01, 2018	<u>\$5,770.00</u>	<u>\$5,862.41</u>	<u>\$92.41</u>	
July, 2018	\$5,770.00	\$5,862.41	\$92.41	
2018 Year to Date	\$150,020.00	\$139,2974.13		(\$10,722.87)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner by Circle 4; Bible Study 7:00 – 8:00, Classes for Adults and Children

Financial Freedom/Entrepreneurship Seminar Series ~ *suspended until August 4th*

Homecoming Weekend Friday - Sunday, July 13th – 15th!

One-Night Revival Friday, 7:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Meeting House *featuring* Rev. John Gilmore, pastor and spiritual director, Open Heart Spiritual Center of Memphis, TN

A Day in the Park Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. at Edwin Warner Park, area 10
Circle Assignments are on the board in the vestibule
Volunteers to coordinate children’s games needed. Please see Mia Caldwell.

Homecoming Worship Sunday, 9:30 a.m. at the Metropolitan Meeting House

Ecclesiastical Council Meeting Sunday, August 19th, following worship

Thank you for supporting Metropolitan through the Kroger Plus program. For the period between 3/1/18 and 5/28/18, Metropolitan received \$191.45 in Community Rewards.

United Way Employee Giving Campaign: Please designate #3255 to support the First Response Center. For the United Federal Campaign, *Write In* Metropolitan Interdenominational Church First Response Center.

Support Metropolitan while you shop:

- Enroll in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program:** Login to Kroger.com, enroll your Kroger Plus card, select Community Rewards, then Metropolitan Interdenominational Church FRC; it’s that easy!
- When shopping online, register your support for Metropolitan Interdenominational Church FRC with **Smile.Amazon** ...and always shop through the Smile.Amazon site.

Opportunity Now: Youth Employment Initiative Visit: <https://app-opportunitynow.workbay.net>

BIBLE READINGS

Read... Pray... Sacrifice... **8th Sunday after Pentecost** **July 9 - 15, 2018**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12B-19 *Psalms 24* *Ephesians 1:3-14* *Mark 6:14-29*

Friday evening Dancercise, 7p.m. // **Voices of Metropolitan Rehearsal**, Saturday 12–2p.m.

Saturday Worship, 6 – 7 p.m.

Centering Prayer, Sunday 8:30-8:50 a.m.; Wednesday 6:40-7:00 p.m.

~ Sick, Shut In, and Recovering Members ~

Leon McKinley Corder	1902 Elliott Avenue; Nashville, TN 37204-2004	Send prayers. <i>No visitors</i> , please.
John Cross	3441 White Pine Drive; Nashville, TN 37214	Send prayers and cards, only, please.
Christopher Davis	202 Emmitt Avenue; Madison, TN 37115	615-939-9454
Jay Lane		615-474-4239
Evelyn Martin	3253 Spears Road; Nashville, TN 37207	615-227-0095
Connie Ryans	1703 Pecan Street; Nashville, TN 37208	615-310-7855
Emmilye Wilson-Walton	P.O. Box 78795; Nashville, TN 37207	615-262-9375

~ Midweek Fellowship Meal Schedule ~

July 18	Circle 5	August 8	Circle 1
July 25	Circle 6	August 15	Circle 2
August 1	Circle 7	August 22	Circle 3