Hello Mayodan Church Family,

Have you ever wondered how preachers decide what to preach about? Well, there are a number of methods, but for pastors throughout the world, the lectionary is their guide. The lectionary is a list of passages of scripture to be read in church services during the year. It is a three-year cycle of suggested scripture readings that follows the Christian year, which begins on the first Sunday of Advent, not January 1. Each Sunday, four passages of scripture are recommended, usually two from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament. Thus, over a three-year period the Bible is covered in a systematic and balanced way.

What are the advantages of following the lectionary? Well, it results in a full reading and/or preaching of the entire Bible every three years. Pastors know that some passages are harder to preach than others. The lectionary guides us not to skip over the ones we don’t enjoy preaching.

While some churches read all four passages each week, the pastor chooses one of the four for the text of the sermon. This provides a number of preaching options for each Sunday of the year.

So, how do I prepare my sermons? I adhere to the lectionary about 80% of the time. During the other Sundays I will often preach a series of sermons on a theme, such as Advent or Lent. A typical preparation goes like this: First, I read each of the four scriptures for the week. I pray about them and often reread them. As I pray, the Holy Spirit will guide me toward one of the texts. I am frequently drawn to the gospel text because it is such a powerful part of our faith.

Once I have my text, I reread it in several translations. I study commentaries and look for what I feel God is calling me to share with the congregation. While most churches call it a “sermon,” it is more appropriately the “Proclamation of the Word.” Pastors are called to proclaim what the Bible provides and to lift up the messages and lessons of the text in Spirit led ways.

Year C has been devoted to the gospel of Luke. December 1, Year A will begin a year of focus of the gospel of Matthew. And, Year B focuses on the gospel of Mark. So, what about John’s gospel. It is used every year, specifically for Advent, Lent and other appropriate times.

Would you like to know more about some other area of worship? Let me know and I will be happy to provide any information that I can.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Pat

Church Council meets on the second Tuesday every other month. The next meeting will be October 8 at 6:30pm. You do not have to be a member of Council to attend, however, according to the Book of Discipline, only members of Council may cast a vote.

Eddie Amos  Vic & Mary Marks
Edith Purgason  Eleanor Purgason
Tom Webb  Bruce & Lou Lawson

Please contact the church office for contact information for these important church members

Visit the homebound, give them a call, or send them a card and let them know you are thinking about them and praying for them.

SOLOMON’S PORCH

Solomon’s Porch has resumed meeting on Wednesday, at Noon. Bring your lunch and join us for an hour of fellowship, prayer and devotion. Pastor Pat will be leading us.

The United Methodist Women meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. All ladies are invited to join us for a short program, business meeting, and refreshments. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 15.
Mayodan UMC is in the rotation for delivering Meals on Wheels. If you would like to help deliver or be a substitute, contact Billy Sechrist.

The United Methodist Men have changed their meeting day to the second Tuesday and location to Airport Drive In for breakfast at 8am. All men are invited to join us on Tuesday, October 8.

Chuck Spicer has developed a new website for us. This is the church’s main source of information to the community at large and our members. He will continue to refine and improve the site and will appreciate any suggestions that you have. The site will provide information about events, calendars and information about ministries and groups within the church. Our facebook page will gradually return to a site for pictures and sharing of special events and activities of MUMC. Be sure to visit the website whenever you need information regarding church events. www.mayodanumc.org.

Weary Warriors is a support group for families and loved ones of those who suffer from addictions. This group meets on the third Thursday of each month, at 7:00pm. If you would like to provide refreshments for this ministry, please see Debbi Boles. The group will meet October 17.

ALUMINUM CANS MINISTRY
Mayodan UMC will continue to collect aluminum cans. Please place your ONLY ALUMINUM CANS (NO PLASTIC BOTTLES, NO GLASS BOTTLES, NO TIN CANS) in the recycle container. The recycle container has been moved to the old Children’s Church classroom, located on the back hall, third door on the left. Please place your cans in the proper room. All proceeds from the sale of these cans will benefit many ministries at Mayodan UMC. Folks, please no loose cans, no paper, and no partially filled cans.

Mailboxes in the hallway outside the church office are for your convenience to save postage. You can leave a card (Christmas, Birthday, Thinking of you, etc) to those who attend church regularly. Please do not put items in the boxes for our home-bound or those who do not attend regularly. They will not be mailed. Newsletters and giving statements are also placed in the mailboxes.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOX WEEKLY!

Please place your unwanted cards in the box on the table outside the church office. Diana Crowder will send those to St Jude’s Children’s Hospital. St. Jude's runs a 30-year-old recycling-card program to benefit the children, which will make those good wishes worth much more than words. The children participate in the program by making new cards. After removing the front of donated cards, they attach a new back made with recycled paper, and then they are sold. Any type of cards are welcome, Get Well, Birthday, Sympathy, Christmas, Thinking of You, Valentine, etc. PLEASE DO NOT CUT OFF THE FRONT OF YOUR CARD.

Please be in prayer for our church, our homebounds, and upcoming events in the community. The prayer cards from each Sunday are placed in the box on the altar in the Prayer Room on Tuesday.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
4 – Michael Lilly
11 – Steve Jones
13 – Jimmie Reddick
16 – Donnie Pugh
17 – Barbara Newman
Billy Sechrist
30 – Luther Hicks

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
6 – Steve & Debbi Boles
10 – Stephen & Rhonda Lamon
11 – George & Ruby Goad
20 – Jerry & Faye Kallam
21 – Steve & Cindy Martin
25 – Jonathan & Tammy Dorsett
28 – Michael & Annette Lilly

If you are not receiving the phone calls sent out periodically requesting prayer, meeting reminders or about church events, please let Debbie know if your phone number has changed. If you have more than one phone number, please advise to which number you prefer to receive calls. **Also, some folks are concerned about not getting the entire message. If you will continue to hold the message will repeat itself.** One Call Tell All cannot explain why the message sometimes begins in the middle, thus the repetition. Keep in mind the church is bound by HIPPA laws and cannot divulge information without the members consent.

When turning off the lights in the sanctuary, please turn the dimmer switch all the way left until you feel or hear a click. Just because the lights are completely dim, there is still electricity being used if they are not completely turned off. Also, if you use the restroom, be sure to turn the water off at the faucet and be sure the toilet stops running. And turn the lights off. Also, please make sure the water in the kitchen is turned completely off and there is no drip.

Guardian Angels is a group of our church family at MUMC, who provide family care and love for our shut ins. The purpose of this group is to show our shut ins they have not been forgotten. Our church family is important, even if they can’t attend regularly, due to illness or other issues. The group provides family support. Support can be given in different ways.

**LISTEN:** Sometimes shut ins have no one to talk to. A good listener can make a world of difference.

**SMALL GIFTS:** Sometimes shut ins have no other family besides church family. A birthday, Christmas, Valentine, or Easter gifts would mean a lot.

**PRAYER:** Anyone can pray. If you do not feel comfortable about doing this, ask if they would like to say a prayer or pray silently.

Gifts will be provided in the Children’s Classroom. If you would like to provide a small gift, you can leave it there or give to Billie Bray. If a member would like to visit a shut in more often for companionship, it’s ok. Group members will get a new shut in each month. This way the shut ins will see a new church family member. See Billie Bray or Marie Fox if you would like to join this group.

1. We need to continue to heal and become one family.
2. We need to work on building our Missions and Community Outreach. We need to go out, not have people come to us.

Thank you for the meals, flowers, cards, visits, and most of all your prayers during my illness. I am better but a long way from being myself.

.........Debbie

Mayodan UMC will participate in Trunk R Treat on Thursday, October 31. We will line up in the parking lot next to Main St at 5pm. There will also be a box in the Narthex for candy donations. The candy needs to be individually wrapped.

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