



# Avalon United Methodist Church

Loving God, Loving People  
On Our Christian Journey

Pastor Debbie Cone

February 1, 2018

## Weekly Newsletter

As we have begun a new year with new leadership roles I would like to encourage you with what I believe are some of the most important traits of a true leader. We, as the body, should be praying all of these over our entire leadership faithfully. The saying "So goes the leadership, so go the people" is so very true!

First of all, may we never forget that...

**THE POWER AND AUTHORITY TO LEAD COMES FROM GOD and HIS WAY IS BROKENNESS, UNCOMMON COMMUNION, SERVANTHOOD AS AN IDENTITY, AND RADICAL, IMMEDIATE OBEDIENCE.**

The Word of God should be the rule, the standard for everything we are and do. What we believe, how we think, and how we act should be determined by our biblical framework.

**Brokenness- A DESPERATE NEED FOR GOD:**

"Whoever abides in me and I in him, he is it that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."  
John 15:5

Brokenness is a conscious admission that you need God in everything. For a Christian leader, brokenness is a dear friend, and pride is definitely the enemy!

**Uncommon Communion- HIS RESOURCES:**

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives it generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." James 1:5

It is in those seasons of seeking Him and crying out to Him for His direction and His solutions that we tap into HIS power and we develop a deep heart connection with the God that called us to the assignment in the first place! He calls us to the depths of intimacy with Him - that is uncommon communion.

**Servanthood As An Identity- AUTHENTIC HUMILITY:**

"Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."  
Philippians 2:3 more important you're your own!

Radical,

**Immediate Obedience- STAYING IN THE GAME**

Humility is the full recognition that God is everything to you, and that you are absolutely nothing without Him! It is the acknowledgement that life is not about you, and that the needs of others are

### Servanthood As An Identity- AUTHENTIC HUMILITY:

"Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

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Humility is the full recognition that God is everything to you, and that you are absolutely nothing without Him! It is the acknowledgement that life is not about you, and that the needs of others are more important than your own!

### Radical, Immediate Obedience- STAYING IN THE GAME:

"But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

Biblical leadership is characterized by radical, immediate obedience. Obedience acknowledges the supremacy of God over all things. It is giving our "YES" to God before He even asks the question. It's laying aside some of our own wants and pleasures to be set apart as He has called us to be.

Sometimes we may be tempted to think that if our name isn't on a "leadership list" then none of this applies to us but let us never forget that we are all leaders. We all have influence over someone, somewhere. Let's all take the traits of a true leader to heart and step up and be all that God has called us to be!

### **Avalon welcomes our newest member:**

Manuel Blanco, 2010 Cameron Drive, Albany, GA 31721

### **MEMORIALS**

**Honor:** Pastor Cone, Mark Daniels, Katye Reed, Stephen Webb, Floyd & Mary Herman

### **Safe Sanctuary Training**

Sunday, February 25th and Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 4pm in Youth Building. All volunteers will need to recertify in Safe Sanctuary training. Any questions please see Anna Zuern.

### **49'ers Senior Luncheon Avalon UMC**

Fellowship Hall

Next Luncheon:

February 20, 2018 11 :30am

\$7.00 per person

Third Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch provided by Kaye Blalock, Southern Elegance Catering. Come bring a friend and enjoy making new friends who love the Lord! Everyone is invited. Bring your neighbors and friends!

## **Circle of Concern:**

Nikki Daniel, Laverne Hawkins, Dot McClain, Dorothy Griffin, Rebecca Smith, Norma Jean Moss, family of Nathan Bundrick, (Betsy Tatum), Harold Smith, Ursula Gaydosh, Elizabeth Wall, Gene Hawkins, Charles Tallent, Cora Dasher, Cora Dasher, Eugenia Harrington, Tammy Mills, James Ivey, Ron Wolfe.

*If you know of anyone that needs to be added or removed please call the church office. Non-members names that have been on this list over one month have been removed. If they need to be on here please call the office*

## **Home Bound - Please join us in this ministry to these members:**

Evelyn Bruner, Barry & Nikki Daniel, Ann Dollar, Fred & Barbara English, Ed & Nelle Ennis, Gene & Laverne Hawkins, Gay Sheffield, Rebecca Smith, Betsy Tatum, Elizabeth Wall, Joyce Waters, Kitty Tomlinson, Jeannette Cosey, Bill & Jan Cowart, Cora Dasher, Lola Moreland, Norma Jean Moss, George Anderson. Eugenia Harrington.

## **God Always Keeps His Promises**

Spiritually speaking, there is a **Law of Guaranteed Return**. The Laws of Stewardship are rooted in the immovable ground of God's promises. They are truths we can count on-the absolute positive teachings of Jesus, such as the Law of Guaranteed Return: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure, that ye mete withal, it shall be measured unto you again." Luke 6:38. Spiritually, there is no risk, but all reward. Whether the gift is money or some other contribution, God keeps perfect records of giving. His promises are always "yes" and amen."

The promises of the "world" are not so. Worldly investments are subject to loss. Generally, the higher the return the greater the risk. A good rule of thumb is don't invest an amount we can't afford to lose. When we invest in God's kingdom, we won't lose. All spiritual investments pay a handsome return. Give in order to bless and we will be blessed in return.

We should review our eternal investment portfolio daily. In a worldly financial investment portfolio some pay off, others don't. We must not allow worry to control our minds. Jesus said, "Therefore take no thought, saying what shall we eat? Or, what shall we drink? Or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? But seek you first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6: 31 & 33. Jesus further admonishes us to 'take no thought for tomorrow." So, the key is to focus on Him and trust Him for our needs and claim his promises to provide, and keep giving into His kingdom for we cannot out give the "Giver of all good and perfect gifts."

Janet Beard, Chairperson Stewardship

## **JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!**

Our first Sunday in Lent is February 18, following our ***Ash Wednesday Service on February 14, 2018.*** We are reaching out to invite other choirs and singers to join us for our special services and cantatas. We are a blessed choir and continue to seek God's Word and Wisdom as we prepare our anthems. Each of us have a part to play in worship. If you feel called to serve through music, and have an interest in singing in the choir, we have a chair saved for you in the choir room on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. We welcome the opportunity to give everyone a chance to lead worship through song.

May God Bless You and Keep You! **Diana Boensel**

## **THOSE WHO SERVE**

### **Offering Stewards:**

Feb. 4 Bill Beard/Ellen Branch  
Feb. 11 Wayne Barnette/Sheila Creel  
Feb. 18 Katy Reed/Jenny Collins  
Feb. 25 Carl Ellis/Jan Beard

### **Ushers:**

Feb. 4 Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond  
Feb. 11 Avalon Youth  
Feb. 18 Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond  
Feb. 25 Lloyd Mears, Ron Wolfe, Carl Ellis, Richard Griffin, Robbie Collins, Josh Hammond

### **Prayer Room:**

Feb. 4 Homer Milliner  
Feb. 11 Lynne Haggerty  
Feb. 18 Mona F Williams  
Feb. 25 Linda Stevens

### **Nursery:**

Feb. 4 Ann Owen  
Feb. 11 Tina Justice  
Feb. 18 Terri Stumpe  
Feb. 25 Dollie Dollar

**Sound Technician:** Bob Smith

**Trustee of the Month-** Neal Stevens

## **Wednesday Family Night Fellowship (FNF)**

February Menus FNF Begins at 6PM

Feb. 7 Meatloaf, Mashed potatoes, White acre peas, Orange Cake.

Feb. 14 NO Supper (ASH Wednesday Service)

Feb. 21 Roast beef, Rice & gravy, Black eyed peas, Chocolate delight.

Feb. 28 Baked chicken, Potato casserole, Green beans, Strawberry cake.

Server Rotation: Volunteers

Please be mindful that if your reservations are not cancelled by noon on Tuesday, you are responsible for payment.

Cost: Adults-\$6.50, Children under 12 years- \$3.50, Takeout's- \$.50 extra