

Bellringer

Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church April 2018

From the Pastor's Desk

Do you ever feel like there's just not enough time in each day? Well, we have to remember we all have the same amount of time: one hundred sixty-eight hours a week, twenty-four hours a day. The key is making the most of our time. This is a spiritual, as well as practical, issue.

*"Be careful, then, how you live, not as unwise people, but as wise, making the most of your time." •
Ephesians 5:15-16*

So how do we do that? Perhaps we can list the top three to five priorities of our lives. This list will help us prioritize how we spend our time.

We can focus on what is important, and triage the rest, so to speak. As we approach each day, we can write down the most important thing we need to do, commit to do it, then go to the second most important thing and do it.

Effective time management is an important discipline to have, in order to live the successful life. It helps us to be better disciples of Christ.

Connections by Craig Myrbo

*"And what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"
Micah 6:8*

The Mission Statement of Worker Justice Wisconsin

Worker justice is necessary for a just economy. Worker Justice Wisconsin builds collective worker power through training, labor rights education, collective action and community engagement with an emphasis on interfaith involvement. To achieve this, we:

- Join workers in resolving workplace problems through collaboration, accompaniment, advocacy and collective action.
- Develop worker leadership and nurture workplace democracy through education and labor organizing.
- Engage and mobilize a coalition of individuals, labor unions, faith communities, and community organizations committed to economic, racial, immigrant, and worker justice.

In keeping with this mission Worker Justice Wisconsin hosts annual faith labor breakfasts. We are pleased to sponsor the breakfast again April 27th.

<http://workerjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2018-Breakfast-Flyer1.pdf>

I hope that you can join me for this important event.

A Love Supreme by Veronica Berry

*"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life."
John 3:16*

On February 25, Sherman Avenue UMC had a special service honoring the life and works of John Coltrane, an African American jazz musician whose greatest work, "A Love Supreme", exemplified his spiritual quest. He presented it as a spiritual declaration that his musical devotion was now intertwined with his faith in God.

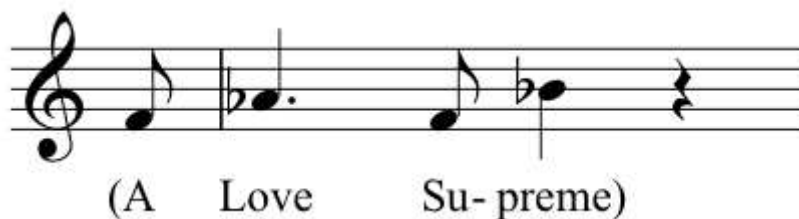
This special service ignited all our senses as we learned more about "A Love Supreme". Local artist, Martel Chapman provided three drawings depicting different phases of John Coltrane's persona. Pastor Kenneth Pope, blest the service with his soulful rendition of the hymn "You Made a Way" and Steve Limbach soothed us with his flawless solo "You Raise Me Up". As Caitlin McGahan and Jolieth McIntosh gave us a glimpse of John Coltrane's journey, The Rachel Heuer Quartet played beautiful jazz pieces that seemed to take us back in time and connect us with his creative genius.

Reverend Hart brought everything together in his sermon when he talked about Agapè Love - unconditional love. This is the love that Coltrane found through his life crisis of drug and alcohol addiction while God cradled and protected him. He found the depth of love that God had for him and expressed it in his music. Coltrane realized that everything he is was because of God. He didn't have to earn God's love because it was already given. Rev. Hart reminded us that God sent his only Son to teach us how to love - which is a love supreme. It is a reflection on hate and a call to us to turn the tide around and teach us how to love and establish loving relationships with others.

We need to be willing to drop stereotypical thinking and actions, accept each other for their true selves, understand each other, and love in action - spread love and work with each other.

A Love Supreme had four sections – Acknowledgment, Resolution, Pursuance, and Psalms. These sections recreated Coltrane's own progress as he first learned to acknowledge the divine, resolved to pursue it, searched and eventually proclaimed in song what he found. John Coltrane was a creative genius who shared his struggles and triumphs through his music and most importantly allowed us to hear how a spiritual revelation can surpass limited thinking so we can see what's real - unconditional love.

"I will do all I can to be worthy of Thee, O Lord. It all has to do with it. Thank You God. There is none other. God is. It is so beautiful. Thank You God. God is all. Help us resolve our fears and weaknesses. In you all things are possible. Thank you. We know. God made us so. Keep your eye on God. God is. He always was. He always will be. No matter what...it is God. He is gracious and merciful. It is most important that I know Thee. Words, sounds, speech, men, memory, thoughts, fears and emotions--time--all related--all made from one--all made in one. Blessed be his name. Thought waves--heat waves--all vibrations--all paths lead to God. Thank you God." John Coltrane's A Love Supreme



April 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Easter Sunday 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 1:00 Hmong Easter Celebration	2 6:00 Cub Scouts 6:15 Girl Scouts 6:30 Speak Up!	3 6:00 United Methodist Women	4 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC	5 6:30 Choir	6 6:00 Hmong Ministry & Youth Bible Study	7 12:30 Stephen Ministry
8 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship 1:00 Hmong Admin Council	9 6:00 Cub Scouts	10 6:30 Trustees 6:45 Communications	11 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC	12 4:00 Asian Youth 6:30 Choir	13 7 am Asian Youth	14 8:00 Spring Cleanup 12:30 Stephen Ministry
15 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30 Breakfast 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	16 6:00 Cub Scouts	17 6:30 Admin Council	18 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:00 Craft Night	19 6:30 Choir	20 6:00 Hmong Ministry & Youth Bible Study	21 12:30 Stephen Ministry
22 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	23 5:00 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 Cub Scouts 6:15 Girl Scouts	24 6:30 Outreach & Missions	25 4:30 Bible Study 6:00 Band Practice 6:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Meditation TC 6:30 Dinner with Reverend David	26 6:30 Choir	27	28 12:30 Stephen Ministry 4:00 Homeless Shelter Meal 6:30 Men's Group
29 Homeless Shelter Meal 8:30 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:30 Worship	30 6:00 Cub Scouts	Our SAUMC 65th Anniversary will be Saturday, December 1, 2018. Recipes are needed for our Anniversary Cookbook. Please share your favorite church potluck recipes for beverages, appetizers, main dishes, vegetables or desserts. Please give recipes to Cyndy Hoffman or e-mail to: cyndy8756@gmail.com .				

April Birthdays

Steve Z	4/2
Chris K.	4/7
John L.	4/11
Brian H.	4/13
Kongmeng T.	4/22
Curtis Van P	4/22
Barbara Z.	4/24
Cliff L.	4/25
Johnny L.	4/28
Veronica B.	4/29
Melvina D.	4/29

These are the dates that are in the database. If you find that your name is not included with the Birthdays or Anniversaries, please call Matt Treadaway.

Please take a moment to remember our homebound members

Linda J. (B-day 7/11)
 c/o Avalon Assisted Living
 2875 Fish Hatchery Rd, Rm 11
 Fitchburg, WI 53713-3177
 608-274-4350

Justin K. r (B-day 12/13)
 1601 Wheeler Rd #208
 Madison, WI 53704-7056
 608-416-5343

Carol R. (B-day 2/1)
 1524 Wheeler Rd #B
 Madison, WI 53704-1443
 608-249-2638

Christian Education Opportunities

Anyone interested in learning about God's love is invited to join any of these classes at any time.

Early Adult Sunday School meets on Sundays at 8:30 in the Youth Room.

Sunday School for All at 10:45 The Adult Class meets in the Choir Room. The Children's Class meets in the Youth Room.

Wednesday Bible Study begins at 4:30. This is an ongoing study of the Old and New Testament.

The Youth Group meets Wednesday and Friday. Please check the Bellringer and Bulletin for activities, topics and times.

Dinner with Rev. David will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 in the Parsonage.

Mid-Week Meditation The call in number is 1-641-715-3836. The access code is 486727.