

## From Our Pastor

When you receive this Newsletter article the Denton family will be on vacation to Washington State to visit our grandbabies and family but also to celebrate Mateo's 25th birthday. We thought he would enjoy it more if he was surrounded by family and friends and so did he.

Mateo often sees himself as different from other people because he is deaf, special needs, adopted and from Bolivia. But we love him just the way he is. Yet, sometimes being different is difficult but at the same time Abraham Lincoln reminds us that "...all men are created equal." So being different isn't bad, especially if we believe that God uses us all, together as a team to accomplish His goals. But at the same time it is necessary for us to walk together and get to know each other, care for each other and build trust. If we don't do that our gifts can never be used effectively.

My point is that just because we think someone is different or just because we think that we are different is no reason to be put into a corner to hide or be ignored. We need to walk with everyone, get to know them, help them to see that they are important in God's eyes and for God's plan. Every single person is made in the image of God and so if we love God we must also love all of humanity. For it is an act of love that will change someone far more radically that anything else we could do. And if you don't believe me look to the cross – how radical was that love?

I encourage you to make friends with someone who seems different than you, be patient in the process for there will be rough times but in the end you will see the Kingdom of God being built. Together we can do many mighty things on God's behalf; alone it becomes difficult to accomplish one thing on God's behalf. Together, we are hard to stop.

The church needs to be a group of diverse friends who become a somewhat strange family that loves each other without judging – it is kind of like how it will be in heaven.

Reach out and see who God places in your life.

With that said,

Pursue the Kingdom above all else!

Pastor Edd

### **Voice of the Martyrs**

<u>A BIBLE FOR EVERY BELIEVER</u> Every believer in Jesus Christ should have access to a copy of the scriptures. No road is too difficult, and no risk is too great when our brothers and sisters are crying out for God's word in hostile and restricted nations. This is a goal of VOM. They invite you to make a gift. Here are three ways to sponsor.

**We Know Them By Name:.** VOM front-line workers gather the names of persecuted Christians who ask for a Bible. Many have never owned a Bible of their own, and it will likely become one of their most cherished possessions.

**Preparing The Next Generation**: Children growing up in restricted nations will eventually face the same trials their parents are facing now, and some have already faced persecution. These children need to be prepared and emboldened in faith, and the best way to accomplish this is to make sure they have a Bible.

**Covert Operations**: Whenever possible VOM workers collect the names of persecuted believers who ask for Blbles. In some times and in some places, it is too dangerous to even collect their name. These believers receive Bibles through VOM's Covert Operations outreach, which also includes audio Bibles. Workers who distribute Bibles in this category face the possibility of years in prison if caught.

Sponsor at Voice of the Martyrs: 1815 SE Bison Rd. Bartlesville, OK 74006 or VOMBibles.com

Quoted From VOM Monthly Magazine



#### U.M.W

# I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the lord ,thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11

#### May meetings

Monday, May 6 – Mission Team Executive Board Meeting 12:30 pm – S.W.R.

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> - Faith and Joy – 12:00 noon, S.W.R. Devotions, Program, Bag lunch

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> – Women serving God – 7:00pm – S.W.R. Program, Devotions, Snacks

Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Graduate Sunday – Combined Service – 10:00 Am Reception following – S.W.R.

All women of the church are invited to join us at circle meetings. We welcome new faces and new ideas. Consider contributing all of these things for a common purpose and the greater good.

#### On - Going

Prayer shawls are available in the narthax.

#### Project Pocketbook

The U.M.W. Has taken this on as a mission. We need pocketbooks. And small Hygiene products, baggies (all sizes), sanitary products, prescription bottles, thread, buttons, sewing needles, all of these items can be left in the boxes provided outsidde the food pantry door. See U.M.W. Bullten boards for the complete list.

#### Thought

A friend is one who helps you bridge the gaps between loneliness and fellowship, frustration and confidence, despair and hope, setbacks and success



#### MATS ON A MISSION - HERNANDO

we are a group of women who get together, most Saturdays, to crochet mats for the homeless out of plastic bags. We gather between 9am and 11am in the susannah Wesly Room. Contact Joan 540-8078 for dates and information. We could use help in all phases of the operation.



# Come be "Shipwrecked" with us!

At Shipwrecked you will discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms!

SCUED BY JESUS

June 25 - June 29, 2018

9:00 am - Noon

Requested Donation: \$15.00

Ages: K4\*-5th grade

\*K4 kids must have previously attended a preschool program. PRESCHOOL SPOTS ARE FULL!

VBS is a ministry sponsored by
Brooksville First United Methodist Church

#### From the Editor

As Mothers Day is fast approching dont forget to let your moms know just how much they mean to you. For it is our mothers who has the grace to be there for us through all of our trials . She is a gift from God .

<u>Proverbs 31:28</u> ESV
Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

