



Light From The Hill

MAY, 2017...The Pastor's Corner...Rev. Norman L. Ramsey, III

Dear Laurel Hill:

During the month of May, I'll be preaching on *Learning from the Prophet Daniel*. There are many things this young man of God can teach us but perhaps the most important is making sure we know who we are. Is our life our own possession to do with what we want? Or, is it the gift of God for which we need to be good stewards and give an appropriate accounting? The fact that we refer to Daniel's Hebrew name rather than his Babylonian one points us in the right direction.

Through Daniel we can learn some of the things God is always at work doing for us and in us. The lessons we learn from Daniel remind me a lot of the things the Apostle Peter tries to teach us in 1 and 2 Peter. Going back and reading those epistles will help you be ready for what we can learn from Daniel.

One verse I highlight is 1 Peter 5: 10, "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." First, Peter gives us a glimpse of God's overarching character. God is the God of all grace. Secondly, Peter shows us God's calling upon our lives. We are meant to share in eternal glory with Him in Christ. Don't seek after any other purpose for yourself that takes you outside or astray of that calling.

Thirdly, Peter tells us God will be patient with us. The Lord knows and we should understand we don't fully appreciate God's grace and appropriate it to our lives without going through sensible experience over time. Finally, get excited for the great work God wants to accomplish in you.

God wants to mend all that is broken in you, reconciling you to Himself in Jesus, and restoring you to life. God will enable you to walk in stereo with Him. God will set you up as a standard for others to follow: as a model, an example, and a witness. The Lord will indeed lay such a solid foundation of grace in you that you can live unshaken by the tumult and trouble of the world.

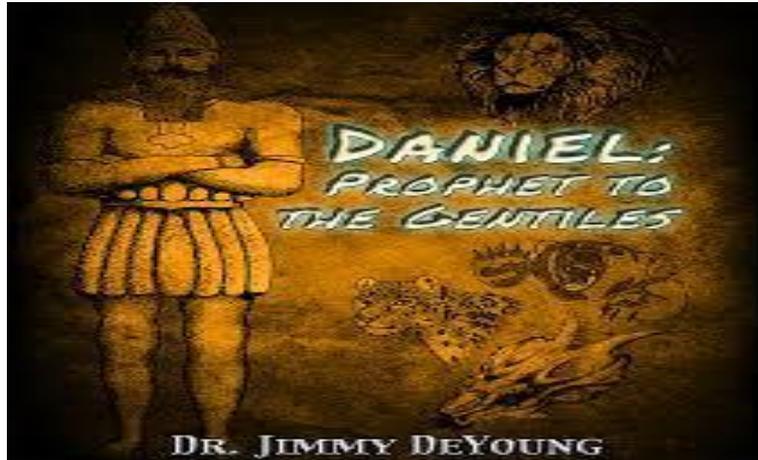
You can be like Daniel: a prophet and instrument of grace. Let's learn from Daniel how God wants to work in us wherever we work, within our family and within our friendships, and as a signpost of God's plan to others. Set your calendar so we can be in worship together every Sunday in May.

Love you very much,

Norman Ramsey

BIRTHDAYS IN MAY: Ray Alexander, Joe Corley, Angela Ragland, Connie Madison, Meade Welch, Emma Welch, Karen Ramsey and Sarah Hague

Learning from the Prophet Daniel



8:45am – Praise & Worship
9:45am – Sunday School
11:00am – Traditional Worship

May 4, 2017: National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2017: How to Be Faithful in a Hostile Land (Daniel 1)
(Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM, Luncheon after 11:00 AM Service)

May 14, 2017: How to Trust in God (Daniel 2: 28, 6: 23)
(Mother's Day)

May 21, 2017: You Are Part of a Bigger Picture (Daniel 9 – 10)

May 28, 2017: You Can Know How Things Will Turn Out (Daniel 12)
(Memorial Day, May 29th)

LAY MINISTERS FOR MAY, 2017

Praise & Worship: 8:45 A.M.-Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.-Worship: 11:00 A.M.

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| <u>OUR USHERS</u> | |
| May 7 Kirby Miller, Joe Corley, Randy Welch | |
| May 14 Stuart Walton, Raymond Stevenson, Buddy Whitlow | |
| May 21 Bill Robinson, Gene Russell, George Kaloski | |
| May 28 Craig Pollard, Phil Deane, Ray Alexander | |
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| <u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</u> | <u>CHILDREN'S MESSAGE</u> |
| May 7 & 14 Harley Gostel | May-Muriel Jenness |
| May 21 & 28 Roy and Christy Owens | |
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| <u>OUR ACOLYTES</u> | <u>COMMUNION</u> |
| May 7 Eliana Horne & Nick Cox | May-Lela Hall |
| May 14 Nick Cox | |
| May 21 Eliana Horne | |
| May 28 Nick Cox | |
| | |
| <u>OUR GREETERS</u> | <u>SOUND TECHNICIANS</u> |
| May 7 Stephanie and Jeremy Rowan | May 7-Bill Robinson |
| May 14 Elaine Ogburn & Linda Kinsey | May 14 & 21 Keith Gostel |
| May 21 Kathleen McKinsey & Gail Dagenhart | May 28-David Duke |
| May 28 Gary and Theresa Hughes | |
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| <u>TELLERS</u> | |
| May 7 Pam Wilson and Lois Miller | |
| May 14 Jenny Nelson and Judy & Billy Walker (Mother's Day) | |
| May 21 Randy Welch and Phil Deane | |
| May 28 Linda Kinsey and Chris Ragland | |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Pre-Registration Dinner...Laurel Hill United Methodist Church and Four Mile Creek Baptist Church are joining together for a fun filled VBS weekend. Four Mile Creek will be hosting a pre-registration dinner on **May 25th at 5:30 PM**. Come join us for a family meal and sign-up for **"S'more Jesus"** at the VBS Camp Out this summer. VBS will be June 23-25, 2017, Friday at 5:30-8:30 PM, Saturday from 8:30-11:30 AM and Sunday from 9:45-11:30 AM. A registration form is attached to this newsletter for your convenience.

LHUMC DIGITAL AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT - LHUMC Digital Audio and Visual System Upgrade Project - As mentioned in the April Newsletter, I am researching Audio/Visual solutions that would begin to fulfill our LHUMC 2020 Strategic Vision that was presented last fall. One of our strategic goals was defined to "install a digital audio and visual system throughout the church and become a platform for live streaming events". ; I am excited about the dynamic capabilities of the new A/V technologies that are being reviewed. I am sure that once we have something that meets our needs and opens up future possibilities that you will be enthused as well.

I still would like to hear from members of the congregation directly with their thoughts about this strategic vision and about ideas that you may have. I want to hear all points of view and I would appreciate the opportunity to interact with you all as we exchange our thoughts and ideas. Just to let you know, I have heard from some people both pro and con...imagine that! Some of the pro comments are especially mindful of the communication methods of the millennial generation (and some of the Boomers!). Part of this strategic vision is the understanding that effective presentation of The Word can be enhanced with some of the newer 21st century communication mediums. On the other hand, there is a concern that a new AV solution would not be aesthetically pleasing in our sanctuary. I am mindful of both sides of the discussion, and indeed, including all points of view is an integral part of our requirements definition. Please let me assure you that all viewpoints are being heard.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.
(Matthew 28:19-20, New King James Version)

You may connect with me to share your thoughts directly in person, at home at 804-795-1723, or via Email at pmdeane@comcast.net. Thanks! Phil Deane

MISSION KITS FOR CONFERENCE...One hundred and sixty Mission Kits have been completed, boxed and are ready to be sent to the Virginia Annual Conference in June. There are 88 School Kits, 40 Health Kits and 32 Layette Kits. Shopping is done all year when there is a sale. Fabric is bought to make the blankets, baby sweaters are knitted and school bags are made in the summer to be filled in the fall when school items are on sale. This year's kits included the following: School Kits contain 88 school bags, 88 rulers, 88 blunt scissors, 88 pencil sharpeners, 88 boxes of 24 crayons, 88 large erasers, 264 spiral notebooks and 524 # 2 pencils. Health Kits contain 40 gallon plastic bags, 40 hand towels, 40 wash cloths, 40 nail clippers (small), 40 large combs, 40 tooth brushes, 40 bath soap bars and 240 band aids. Layette Kits (Baby) contain 64 onesies, 64 sleepers, 64 baby wash cloths, 64 blankets, 64 diaper pins, 32 sweaters and 192 cloth diapers.



CLEAN OUT THE CLOSETS AND THE GARAGE
THE ANNUAL SPRING YARD SALE IS COMING!!!!

The annual yard sale will be **May 5th & 6th** at Laurel Hill UMC. You can start donating items on **April 2nd**. Please place them in the back third of the fellowship hall, aka the usual place. Share this with your friends and neighbors to spread the word for a great turn out! If you need assistance transporting large items please contact Peggy Singlemann.

Thank you for the support of the Mission Outreach of LHUMC. Please help spread the word on social media by liking the church's Facebook page and sharing the postings for the auction/dinner and the yard sale on your page. Help us spread the word to the community!

CONFIRMATION CLASS...On April 23rd, during the Sunday School hour (9:45 A.M.) we plan to begin a Confirmation Class for anyone whose heart is stirred up to follow Jesus and learn what that means. Primarily, we think of our children for this class, but if there are others (adults) who are not members of this church, but would like to be, this can also be a helpful class for them. We will be learning what we believe and how we become a disciple of Jesus. Call the office at 795-2772 if you, or your child, would like to be part of the class.

THE ANNUAL PLANT SALE WILL BE MAY 10TH starting at 10 A.M. at the campus at 3900 W. Broad Street. Many unusual plants will be available. If you go you will meet some of the students there.

CONGRATULATIONS to Pam and Ed Johnson on the birth of a new granddaughter, Collette Elizabeth Johnson, on April 17th. May God richly bless Collette and her entire family.